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BAGHDAD ARAB MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS 27-28 MAR

Arrival Statements

JN271233 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 March--Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, has arrived in Baghdad.

Dr at-Turayki told INA that the signing of the peace treaty has been expected ever since the beginning of the Egyptian regime's capitulationist policy, which constitutes a state of actual alliance between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity.

Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah and Kuwaiti Finance Minister 'Abd ar-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi also arrived in Baghdad.

Shaykh Sabah told INA that Kuwait is responding to the invitation in implementation of the resolutions of the Baghdad summit conference which stipulate the invitation of the governments of the Arab countries to deal with the agreement of shame and to discuss the possibility of neutralizing it.

Shaykh Sabah added that the Arab nation and the Egyptian people are capable of toppling the agreement and achieving the aspirations of the Arab nation. We will work for this cause.

Shaykh Sabah called on the Arab nation to be united in rank. He also expressed hope that the conference will lead to positive results since the Arab nation can do a great deal while the Egyptian-Zionist treaty is a unilateral and desperate action.

The Saudi delegation under Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal also arrived in Baghdad.

Prince Sa'ud made the following statement to INA: We come to this conference which stems from the Baghdad summit and the resolutions adopted by the Arab kings and presidents for the interest of the Arab nation and in order to cope with the circumstances of the challenge and the tragedy of the dismemberment of the Arab ranks, particularly under the circumstances of the big challenges represented by the Zionist enemy.

Prince Sa'ud added: The Baghdad summit has drawn up the framework of this conference and wanted it to be an instrument for the implementation of the resolutions which we hope will be in the interest of the Arab nation. We hope that every Arab country will adopt the necessary methods to implement the Baghdad summit resolutions.

YAR Foreign Minister Abdallah al-'Amri also arrived in Baghdad. He said: We are eager to attend this conference to implement the Baghdad summit resolutions after As-Sadat signed the treaty. We hope that we can all work toward toppling the plot.

PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti also arrived in Baghdad. He said the aim of our participation in the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference in Baghdad is to discuss practical ways to implement the resolutions of the ninth Arab summit conference held in Baghdad by reaching a decisive solution and a candid position toward the signing by the head of the Egyptian regime of the treasonous treaty with the Zionist enemy. The PDRY has always warned against the dangers of the design being implemented by the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat alliance and asserted by its constant stand the need to support the national and patriotic struggle being waged by the Palestinian Arab people under the leadership of their sole, legitimate representative--the PLO.

Muti added: The difficult circumstances which the Arab nation is passing through require a clear and decisive stand against the enemies of our nation and their suspect designs.

Muti asserted his country's adherence to the Baghdad summit resolutions and said that these resolutions constitute a positive response to the treasonous conduct of the head of the Egyptian regime and to the imperialist-Zionist design which is hostile to our nation. We regard the U.S. military activities taking place in the gulf area and the Arabian Peninsula and the attempts to set up military alliances as a threat to peace and stability and a dangerous trend which will further aggravate the state of tension. This trend is inseparable from the comprehensive plan aimed at causing war and sedition and aborting the gains and achievements of our Arab nation.

Lebanese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus also arrived in Baghdad. He told INA that he is happy to participate in the meetings of the conference which will be convened to implement the resolutions of the Baghdad summit conference. He expressed hope that the conference will adopt decisions dictated by the interest of the Arab nation, particularly under these frightening circumstances we are passing through. We hope we can prove the cohesion of the conferees in order to cope with the big dangers posed to the area and to the Arab people.

'Arafat's Arrival Statement

JN271407 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1331 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 March--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived here today on a visit to Iraq that will last several days.

'Arafat asserted that "by signing the treasonous and capitulationist treaty the traitor As-Sadat had forfeited our Arab nation's rights."

In a statement he made to INA on his arrival, 'Arafat said that despite the ferocity of the Zionist-imperialist conspiracy the Arab nation is capable of achieving victory, however long this might take and whatever the sacrifices.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman said that the purpose of his visit to Iraq during these difficult times is to hold talks with Iraqi officials. This is in order to confront the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat schemes and to take part in the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference for the purpose of adopting joint Arab decisions against the traitorous As-Sadat regime in accordance with the Baghdad summit resolutions. He called on all Arab countries to impose economic, oil and financial sanctions against the imperialist presence in the area and to isolate As-Sadat's regime.

In conclusion, 'Arafat asserted that the Charter for Joint National Action between Syria and Iraq--which the Palestinian revolution considers as natural extensions of itself--will strengthen the Arab nation in confronting the imperialist challenge and the Zionist military call-up on the northern and eastern fronts, as well as the potential consequences of the Egyptian forces' withdrawal from the western front.

Yasir 'Arafat is accompanied by Salah Khalaf, Abu Iyad, PLO Executive Committee member.

Second Session 27 Mar

JN272045 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2034 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 March--Arab foreign ministers resumed their closed meetings at 2300 today, Baghdad time, at As-Salam Palace.

The ministers will resume their discussion of the items on their meetings' agenda, with the aim of arriving at formulae that will ensure implementation of the Baghdad summit conference resolutions on punishing As-Sadat's regime following its signing of the treaty of treason and capitulation yesterday.

At the conclusion of their second session held in Baghdad tonight, the Arab foreign ministers decided to form a committee comprising seven Arab countries to study the proposals and submit a joint report to the meeting that will be held by the ministers at noon tomorrow, Wednesday.

The committee is made up of Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Algeria, Palestine, and Iraq.

It has been learned that the joint meeting of the Arab foreign affairs and economy ministers will be held at 0900 tomorrow, Wednesday.

'Arafat, Hammadi Remarks

JN271803 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 March--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has affirmed that the Palestinian people are determined to fight to the last Palestinian infant. In a speech delivered at the Arab foreign ministers conference that opened here today, he called on the Arab countries to make decisions to punish the United States and to boycott it in the fields of oil, finance and trade.

Addressing the conferees, 'Arafat said: I am not asking you to declare war but to adhere to your pan-Arab commitments. He pointed out that the minimum resolutions that have been made to punish the Egyptian regime are insufficient to confront the grave stage through which the Arab nation is passing.

Mr 'Arafat added: Our struggle will not stop if we lose a single battle, as happened with the recent removal of Egypt from the Arab nation's ranks. He appealed to the Arab foreign ministers to adopt the required decision to confront the ugly conspiracy. We have what enables us to do so, he added.

Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi then delivered a speech in which he affirmed that the Arab nation will not forget As-Sadat's treason and the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy. He said that sooner or later, imperialism will pay the price.

Dr Hammadi said that the United States, which played a prominent role in the establishment and continuation of the Zionist state after World War II, bears a major responsibility for what has been accomplished between the As-Sadat regime and the Zionist enemy. It has thus acted against the Arab nation's interests and against the Arab nation's will, which became clear at the Baghdad summit conference.

Dr Hammadi added: Both the immediate and distant future of Arab security is threatened by this danger. The entire Arab nation will be subject to catastrophe if no decisive action is taken. The gravity of As-Sadat's deed is thus clear. It explains our stand regarding this deed.

The first session of the Arab foreign ministers meeting headed by Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi ended here this evening after lasting 4 hours. INA has learned that during the session, a joint Iraqi-Syrian working paper was submitted. The working paper was supported by the heads of the delegations of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, Palestine, Bahrain, the PDRY, and Jordan, who spoke at the session.

The Arab foreign ministers will resume their meetings later this evening after attending a dinner hosted in their honor by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry.

Sanctions Against Egypt

JN271919 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 March--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has announced that the Arab foreign affairs and economy ministers meetings will begin in As-Salam Palace in Baghdad tomorrow.

Speaking at a press conference held here this evening following the conclusion of the first session of the Arab foreign ministers meeting, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi said that the participants in this session discussed several topics on the meeting's agenda, including the transfer of the Arab League from Cairo to one of the fraternal capitals and the measures and sanctions that the Baghdad summit conference had decided to impose against As-Sadat's regime if he signed the treaty of capitulation with the Zionist enemy.

Dr Hammadi expressed his belief that these sanctions will be unanimously approved at the Arab foreign affairs and economy ministers meeting.

Dr Hammadi said that Egyptian nationals working in the Arab countries will stay where they are. Aid will be extended to them and no measures or sanctions will be taken against them because the Egyptian people are part of the Arab nation. The sanctions approved by the Baghdad summit conference should be imposed against As-Sadat's regime and not against the Arab people in Egypt.

Dr Hammadi affirmed that the current foreign ministers conference is examining means and measures that will insure implementation of the sanctions approved by the ninth Arab summit conference. He also affirmed that the Arab League Council of Ministers has the right to discuss the current Arab situation and development in the Arab area and to adopt suitable measures in light of the new circumstances.

Palestinian Working Paper

JN280827 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] The Palestinian delegation to the Arab foreign and economic ministers conference currently being held in Baghdad, has submitted a working paper requesting the following:

1. The immediate transfer of Arab League headquarters from Cairo.

2. The expulsion of Egypt from the Arab League Council as of the date of the signing of the peace agreement.

3. The imposition of a political, economic, diplomatic, trade, and financial boycott against Egypt and its organizations, in addition to boycotting Egypt in the areas of air and maritime transport, and expelling it from the nonalined movement, from the OAU and from the Islamic conference.

4. Inviting the Egyptian national forces [words indistinct].

5. The adoption of the following measures against the United States:

A. A political and diplomatic boycott and the immediate recall of Arab ambassadors accredited to the United States.
B. A financial boycott by withdrawing all Arab deposits in U.S. banks.
C. A trade boycott by stopping all dealings with U.S. air transport companies, closing Arab airspace to these companies and closing Arab ports to U.S. maritime companies.

6. Defining relations with world countries and blocs based on their position toward the treaty.

7. The formation of a unified military command to establish the scope of assistance and support to the confrontation parties so as to [words indistinct] the Baghdad summit resolutions and achieve a strategic balance to confront the enemy.

8. The formation of a followup committee entrusted with the task of implementing the resolutions.

Closed Session 28 Mar

JN280732 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0714 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 28 March--The joint meetings of the Arab foreign and economy ministers began here today in a closed session headed by Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi.

Representatives of all Arab countries, with the exception of Sudan, Oman and Egypt, which was not orginally invited, are participating in the meetings.

During the meetings, the conferees will take the necessary measures to protect the interests of the Arab nation in all fields, including the application of the boycott measures against Egyptian companies and establishments dealing with the Zionist enemy either directly or indirectly. However, the conferees will avoid taking any measures that might harm the interests of the Arab people in Egypt.

Special Committee Meeting 28 Mar

JN280814 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--The special committee formed last night by the Arab foreign ministers began its meetings here this morning to draft the political resolutions which will be adopted against As-Sadat's regime for signing the peace treaty with the Zionist enemy.

The committee will submit its final report, which will be based on the proposals of several Arab countries, to the Arab foreign ministers meeting which will be held this afternoon.

The committee is made up of representatives of Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Algeria, and Palestine.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi opened the meeting with a short speech in which he said that this meeting comes in implementation of the Baghdad summit conference resolutions which call for such a meeting to take the necessary measures in the economic field.

As'ad al-As'ad, assistant Arab League secretary general, and Dr Fakhri Qadduri, secretary general of the Arab Economic Unity Council, participated in the meeting.

PFLP's Habash on Talks

JN281021 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash and PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Jawad Salih left Baghdad today.

Prior to his departure, Dr Habash said that the talks held between a delegation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and a delegation of the Palestinian resistance factions resulted in defining the national tasks needed to confront the designs of As-Sadat's regime and U.S. imperialism diplomatically, political and economically.

Dr Habash added that the talks also centered on the means to mobilize the Arab masses to participate in these tasks.

Dr Habash said that the Palestinian revolution regards Iraq as a true ally which will continue to support this revolution until it achieves all its objectives.

Dr Habash called on the Arab countries to firmly apply the measures approved by the Baghdad summit conference. He said that failure to apply these measures is treason.

'Abd al-Jawad Salih called for the imposition of an oil embargo against the United States, the withdrawal of Arab funds from American banks, striking at U.S. imperialist interests in the area, and the achievement of Iraqi-Syrian unity.

Dr Habash and Salih arrived in Baghdad last Saturday as part of a delegation representing all factions of the Palestinian resistance.

Discussion Committee Formed

JN281003 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--It was announced here today that a committee made up of the chairmen of the Iraqi, Saudi, Syrian, Kuwaiti, Palestinian, and Libyan delegations has been formed to discuss the three working papers submitted by Iraq, Syria and Palestine.

Immediately at the conclusion of the closed meeting of the Arab foreign and economy ministers, the committees agreed to reach a unified formula for the three working papers that can be submitted to the joint meeting of the Arab foreign and economy ministers this evening.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi said that the Iraqi working paper includes several economic proposals regarding the implementation of the resolutions of the ninth Arab summit conference.

Dr Hammadi added that these proposals call for applying the rules of the Arab boycott to Egyptian companies and individuals dealing with the Zionist enemy. The proposals also call for economic measures related to protecting Arab interests.

Dr Hammadi said that the other working papers include several punitive economic proposals and measures against As-Sadat's regime.

He explained that the Syrian working paper is close to the Iraqi working paper but has some additions. The Palestinian working paper submitted by the Palestinian delegation today includes other additions and measures, he said.

Dr Hammadi said that the Arab foreign and economy ministers meeting to be held this evening will discuss the report which will be submitted by the committee charged with drafting the political resolutions. This committee was set up at the Arab foreign ministers meeting late last night. He said the conferees will also discuss the report by the economic affairs committee which was formed today.

Dr Hammadi expressed optimism over the results of the meetings. He said there is a trend toward the full application of the Baghdad summit resolutions. He said he expects the meetings to continue until tomorrow, Thursday.

Arab Economic Summit Proposal

JN281115 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--An Iraqi invitation to convene an Arab economic summit conference has been accepted.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has stated that the idea of holding an Arab economic summit conference has been accepted by the participants in the meetings of the Arab foreign and economy ministers.

Dr Hammadi added that the idea was raised in the Iraqi working paper submitted to the meetings on the basis of previous approval by the Arab League of such a summit.

Dr Hammadi, in his capacity as chairman of the meetings of the Arab foreign and economy ministers, said that no Arab delegation participating in the meetings objected to the idea of convening an Arab economic summit.

Dr Hammadi added that the seriousness of the situation facing the Arab nation necessitates the discussion of proposals other than those included in the working papers submitted to the meetings of the foreign and economy ministers. These additional proposals concern political and economic measures approved by the ninth Arab summit conference held in Baghdad.

GENEVA OPEC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS 27 MAR

'Moderate' Oil Price Increase

NC271540 Paris AFP in English 1518 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Geneva, Mar 27 (AFP)--Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) today set the price of oil at 14.546 dollars a barrel as from next Sunday, an OPEC statement said.

It said the increase of 9.08 percent compared with the present price of OPEC's "marker" crude, was "moderate" and "modest" and demonstrated the OPEC countries sense of responsibility for maintaining adequate conditions for sustained growth of the world economy.

Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah of the United Arab Emirates, the chairman of the OPEC Council, said the two-day meeting here:

1-left open the question of further price adjustments later this year, which would depend on market conditions;

2-authorised individual OPEC countries to maintain the surcharges that they considered as warranted; and

3-left member countries free to lay down production policies according to their own choices.

Karim on Price Hike

JN2721148 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2020 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Geneva, 27 March--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and oil minister, has announced that the decisions the 53d Extraordinary OPEC Ministers Conference has reached are considered just and acceptable. The oil minister expressed hope that the consuming countries will hasten to adopt measures to stop the monopolist companies from tampering with the prices and exploiting current market circumstances. He also hoped that stability will prevail in the oil market. Otherwise, the RCC member and oil minister explained, the oil-producing countries might be forced to impose additional raises dictated by market reality and in light of the conference's resolutions in this regard.

This came in a statement by the minister distributed during a press conference he held here today, following the OPEC ministerial conference. The press conference was attended by world and Arab news agencies correspondents and Arab and foreign newspaper reporters.

Text of the Statement

The minister said that in 1973, Iraq called, as it is doing today, for the necessity of establishing economic relations between the oil-producing and consuming countries on just and equal bases, in order to insure the stability and sound development of these relations and to bring about mutually legitimate and equitable interests. Within this framework, we have always opposed freezing oil prices under ordinary circumstances. We have always supported a fair rate of price amendment in order to protect the buying power of oil revenues and to offset inflation in the price of industrialized commodities and the deterioration of the value of the dollar.

Mr 'Abd al-Karim added: Further, we have always been against the imposition of extraordinary raises in the form of jumps under extraordinary circumstances, as happened in 1973 and as is the case at present. Such raises disappear sooner or later as long as the essence of international economic relations remain as they are.

The minister pointed out that the circumstances through which the world oil market is now passing, characterized by a disequilibrium favoring demand over supply--for reasons known to all--have prompted the monopolist oil companies to exploit these circumstances by buying oil from the producing countries at the official rate set by the Abu Dhabi conference and selling it for a much higher price. This has harmed the organization's reputation among the public consumers while bringing huge profits to the companies at the expense of producers and consumers, particularly the developing countries.

The oil minister said that oil prices in the spot market have reached $25-27 per barrel. During the consultations that preceded the conference, we proposed applying the prices of the fourth index approved by the Abu Dhabi conference as of 1 April 1979, whereby oil prices will increase by approximately 15 percent in relation to the 1978 prices, which was the same rate of increase requested by Iraq at the Abu Dhabi conference and which was then rejected. However, the increase in the prices of oil in the spot market has shown an inclination among the oil-producing countries to call for the application of extraordinary increases reaching $4 per barrel, in addition to the prices approved in Abu Dhabi.

The oil minister said: Our stand was that if prices have to be increased in accordance with the new market indicators, it would be better to refer to the resolutions of the conference of OPEC kings and heads of state that convened in Algeria in 1975 and to restore the oil prices prevailing at that time by using the record exports of the industrial countries, which are published by the OECD organization and to restore (?marketing) to the structure of general prices on that basis. The oil minister added: While we believe that the decisions the ministerial conference reached today are fair and acceptable, we hope that the consuming countries' governments will initiate measures to stop the monopolist companies from tampering with the prices and exploiting the current circumstances through which the market is passing. We also hope that stability will prevail in the oil market regarding the new prices. Otherwise, the oil producing countries might be forced to impose additional increases dictated by market reality and in light of the conference resolutions in this respect.

Iranian Official's Report

PA272329 Paris AFP in English 2311 GMT 27 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Geneva, Mar 27 (AFP)--Oil producing countries which stepped up production during the Iranian crisis will cut back as Iran's oil exports rise, according to the head of the Iranian National Oil Company Hassan Nazih.

He said Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait agreed to cut production to their pre-crisis levels but no precise timetable was fixed at the conference of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) here. Mr Nazih said Iran was now producing 2.5 million barrels of oil daily, of which 700,000 went to the home market.

Iran had no intention of creating a chronic world oil shortage, he said. The country's potential output was six million barrels a day but actual output would be fixed according to Iran's economic and social needs.

He said Iran still had to (?make) a decision (?on whether) to impose the $1.20 a barrel premium agreed by gulf countries apart from Saudi Arabia.

ARAB LEAGUE RECEIVES EGYPT'S NOTE TO FREEZE MEMBERSHIP

NC271547 Doha QNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 March--The Arab League Secretariat General received this afternoon the official Egyptian note on Egypt's decision to freeze its membership in the league. The Egyptian Foreign Ministry had sent the text of the note to the Arab League through diplomatic channels. The Secretariat General will distribute the note to the Arab League member states.

ARAB LEAGUE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL RESIGNS

NC271523 Doha QNA in Arabic 1456 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 March--Official sources at the Arab League have said that the Arab League assistant secretary general, Muhammad Riyad, has handed in his resignation. It is known that Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad resigned his post last week.

KUWAIT

PRIME MINISTER REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS

LD271954 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, crown prince and prime minister, received at the prime minister's headquarters at 1100 today Deputy Chairman of the Palestinian National Council Salim az-Za'nun and director of the PLO office in Kuwait 'Awni al-Battash, accompanied by a delegation of the sons of Palestine in Kuwait. They expressed to his highness the thanks of the sons of Palestine to Kuwait, its government and people for its attitude toward the Palestinian issue and its support for the Palestinian right.

The KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY states that his highness the crown prince and prime minister affirmed to the delegation that Kuwait will remain loyal to the pledge and faithful to pan-Arab commitments, foremost of which is to support the struggle of the Palestinian people for the recovery of their soil and legitimate rights and to strengthen Arab efforts for the liberation of the occupied Arab territory.

His highness noted that in the course of its history the Arab nation has been exposed to plenty of calamities and severe trials, but with God's help and the determination of its sincere men and the solidarity of its nations it has always come out victorious and upholding its dignity.

His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah also affirmed that Arab solidarity is the effective way to stand up to all the dangers which threaten our Arab homeland.

YEMENI MINSTERS ARRIVE FOR SUMMIT TALKS 28 MAR

LD281050 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] At about 0930 today, His Excellency Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Yemen Arab Republic and commander-in-chief of the Yemeni Armed Forces, arrived at Kuwait International Airport, accompanied by a delegation.

He was welcomed by his highness the amir, the minister of the amiri affairs office, and the minister of education.

His highness the amir and his guest held a closed meeting which lasted about an hour after which the YAR president left the airport, accompanied by the education minister, for As-Salam Palace where he will be staying.

At about 1215, His Excellency 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidential Council of the PDRY, and the delegation accompanying him, arrived at Kuwait International Airport.

He was welcomed on arrival by his highness the amir, the minister of the amiri affairs office, and the minister of planning.

His highness the amir and his guest held a closed meeting after which the guest left the airport accompanied by the planning minister for As-Salam Palace where he will be staying.

GOVERNMENT APOLOGIZES FOR EGYPTIAN EMBASSY ATTACK

NC261540 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1522 GMT 26 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 26 March--Kuwaiti Minister of the Interior Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad has officially apologized for today's attack on the Egyptian Embassy in Kuwait by a group of youngsters and children.

Following the incident, Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad called at the Egyptian Embassy and met with Egyptian Ambassador in Kuwait Mamduh 'Abd ar-Raziq to officially apologize for this incident.

A responsible source at the embassy said that no one of the embassy's staff or employees was hurt and that the damage was confined to smashed glass front of the building and one employee's car.

OMAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TREATY

NC271130 Doha QNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Muscat, 27 March--An official spokesman of the Sultanate of Oman Foreign Ministry today made a statement in which he said: The treaty which was recently signed between Egypt and Israel is merely a first step which will be put to the test during its implementation. Its ultimate aim should be the achievement of a just, comprehensive and permanent peace ending the Middle East conflict.

The spokesman added that the main props of such a solution must provide for the return of Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty and enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to return and determine their future.

The spolesman continued: The withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula and the restoration of Egyptian sovereignty over it are a gain to the Arab nation no matter how much the interpretations may differ. More efforts should be exerted to insure Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories which have been under cooperation since the 1967 war.

The Omani spokesman further said: The United States, which has played a prominent role through its president in this regard, is now called upon more than at any time in the past to participate effectively in guaranteeing the achievement of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The spokesman emphasized that in the end, a real peace in the Middle East can only be established on the basis of a just and comprehensive solution which all parties to the conflict participate in making and accept.

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER STRESSES UNANIMITY WITH ARAB NATION

LD280750 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0520 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, has stressed that the kingdom is with Arab unanimity and is committed to everything that will serve the interests of the Arab nation and supports the causes of destiny.

His royal highness, in a statement published today by AR-RIYAD says: From this stems the Saudi commitment to the resolutions of the Baghdad summit conference and its participation in the current Baghdad meetings to discuss the plan of applying these resolutions, to face the developments in the Arab question in the present circumstances. On the question about the idea of transferring the Arab industrialization organization from Cairo after the treaty signing together with the decision to transfer the Arab League, his royal highness, the defence and aviation minister, has mentioned that all this will be subject to the decisions produced by the Baghdad conference and what the Arab states consider to be in their mutual interest.

MOROCCAN INFORMATION MINISTER BOUTALEB ARRIVES 27 MAR

ID272124 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1252 GMT 27 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Riyadh--Abdelhadi Boutaleb, Moroccan minister of information, arrived in Riyadh this afternoon on a visit to the kingdom.

King Khalid, Boutaleb Meeting

ID272127 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1625 GMT 27 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Riyadh--At 1830 hours this evening, King Khalid received at his office at Al-Ma'dhar Palace the Moroccan Minister of Information, Abdelhadi Boutaleb. Also present were Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation Dr Rashad Far'awn, the king's adviser; and Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, minister of information.

Boutaleb Departure

ID280920 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 28 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Riyadh--Abdelhadi Boutaleb, Moroccan minister of state in charge of information, following a 1-day visit to the kingdom during which he had a meeting with King Khalid, left Riyadh today before noon. He was seen off at the airport by a representative of the royal protocol.

COMMENTARY DELINEATES REMEDIAL U.S. MEASURES AFTER TREATY

ID261310 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Mar 79 ID

[Hashim 'Abduh Hashim commentary in the "Event and Comment" program]

[Text] The Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty will be signed in Washington today, thus marking the start of a number of changes and tendencies in the Arab and Islamic arena in particular, and probably leading to a large number of decisions, actions or stands. This is because any agreement which fails to tackle all aspects of the problem will not succeed in ending the conflict, particularly if it fails to take into consideration the basis and origin of the problem and tragedy--if it disregards the full rights of the Palestinian people to their land; to the establishment of their state; to the imposition of their sovereignty over it and the exercise of their full will in it.

During the past few days, the United States has made a point of stressing that the agreement is only a step on the road to peace. This could mean that the United States realized that peace cannot come through the mere signing by an Arab side of any form of agreement.

But what is needed is clear: a well-defined and frank commitment to Arab rights and Palestinian and Islamic rights alike. These should be declared without any ambiguity. It is necessary that the existence of the problem should be admitted and efforts should be exerted to define the practical steps that should be taken to find a genuine solution for it so that all this will be the new basis for any truthful, genuine, effective and constructive dialog that can serve peace and stability in this area and in the world at large.

The PLO, which is the legitimate representative of the Palestinians and which works for the establishment of the full rights of the Palestinian people, still declares its refusal to recognize UN Resolution 242 because it does not see in it sufficient guarantees for the return of the Palestinian people's rights. This resolution views the problem as one of refugees, not as a political problem affecting a homeland, a destiny and a question of rights which go beyond humanitarian aspects to judicial, political and ethical aspects.

By virtue of its role in the efforts for peace, the United States can help to secure peace with the cooperation of the countries of the area and absorb any sharp reactions that might develop and prevent the establishment of peace. The United States can do this by declaring new stands and by bringing pressure on the Zionist enemy to abide by the following:

1. The legitimacy of the Palestinian people's rights and the start of negotiations with the owners of the rights on the basis of the recognition of these rights, and acceptance of the need for withdrawal from the territories occupied in the 1967 war, including Jerusalem, and the removal of all settlements established in the occupied territories.

2. The need for a clear and frank acceptance of peace, the abandonment of Israeli ambitions and the ending of all claims to containment [ihtiwa] of the holy places, in addition to the need for the return of Arab Jerusalem.

3. The acceptance and assertion of the rights of the Palestinian Arabs inside and outside [the occupied territories] to the establishment of their Palestinian state without any previous Israeli conditions or insistance on participation in drawing up the political dimensions and judicial dimensions of this state, and respect for the existence of such a state and its practices.

Only such a commitment can guarantee the existence of the desire for a just peace, show there is a readiness to discuss the details of such a peace, and also that there exists a genuine goal on which all parties will agree in the end.

If this is not forthcoming, the future of the solution will not be conducive to the establishment of a full, comprehensive, lasting peace to which all aspire. In this case, no guarantees, whatever they may be, will succeed in securing partial peace of safeguarding it.

Moreover, the coming changes will lead to the creation of a new Arab feeling that will eliminate many of the current contradictions, doing away with secondary differences and unifying the efforts of all Arabs in the face of the dangers embodied in the present stage and the repercussions of any imposed peace, and insure the safety of the area from any grave consequences.

However, such an atmosphere will, from the Arab point of view, not remain conducive to a comprehensive durable peace--a matter which we hope can be avoided if wisdom prevails and reason reigns over the situation and the will of the Arabs becomes united.

AR-RIYAD: CARTER'S CALL TO PALESTINIANS 'NOT TOO LATE'

ID271339 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 25 Mar 79 p 1 ID

[Editorial: "The Palestinian Right and the Israeli Existence"]

[Text] On the eve of signing the separate peace agreement between Egypt and Israel, President Carter sought to initiate a new dialog with the Palestinians as a means of strengthening the treaty and opening the way to negotiations along the lines of the Camp David talks, which were wrong from the start.

It is true that the formal invitation from the president has come somewhat late, but it is not too late for talks provided that the United States really wants to proceed with consolidating the basis of a permanent and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

According to Carter, he does not disagree with the Palestinians as a people having the right to establish a state of their own on the land that the Zionists have usurped. Rather, he disagrees with them over Resolution 242, which called on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories. Now Carter is officially asking the Palestinians to recognize this resolution on the grounds of accepting Israel's existence but, of course, not on the land that was occupied after 1967. This land is still the subject of discussion in Washington as well as in Palestinian and Arab circles.

Supposing that the Palestinians will accept the said resolution, will Israel also accept it without the United States' making a move to bring pressure to bear on Tel Aviv? If Washington does so it will then be taking a new positive step on the path to the right solution and will indeed have knocked on the door of peace.

Israel's rejection of the resolution is definite. Begin has confirmed it more than once, the latest occasion being when he declared that Jerusalem will remain Israel's united capital forever and is not subject to discussion.

Has President Carter overlooked the fact that the question of Jerusalem is an integral part of the resolution which he is asking the Palestinians to accept?

Or is Carter convinced of the distorted reports put to him by pro-Zionist congressmen who impressed upon him the idea that the dispersed Palestinian people are "terrorists?"

Mr President, the Palestinians have never refused an offer that preserves their rights, restores their land and enables them to determine their own destiny. They have been advocates of peace before being advocates of war. They are not begging you to recognize them nor are they the sort of gang to which you have referred on more than one occasion.

Mr President, all the world's countries supported your human rights initiative. How much have the Palestinians benefitted from it?

Why did you allow Israel to violate the Security Council resolution regarding investigation of what is happening in the occupied territories? What prevents your initiative encompassing all human beings who are suffering, wherever they may be? What is the difference between the Palestinian, whom you want to live scattered about the region, and the Israeli, to whom you have been excessively generous?

Forcing the Israelis to withdraw completely from the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem is not difficult to achieve for a great power like the one you lead. Nobody disagrees that this is the true road to peace, which should have been followed since Camp David.

There remains one question: What will the Palestinians' fate be after the agreement is signed tomorrow? Who will guarantee their rights and their self-determination if Israel continues to refuse to recognize them as a people?

With your proposed new dialog you have come nearer to the right door. Therefore, knock on it with courage, justice and impartiality so that you will hear the true answer to peace which has so far eluded you.

UAE

COMOROS PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN271440 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1430 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 27 March--Comoros President Ahmed Abdallah Abdermane arrived in Abu Dhabi at 1730 on a 3-day official visit to the UAE.

President Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan led those who welcomed the Comoros president upon his arrival at Abu Dhabi International Airport.

YEMEN--PDRY

ISMA'IL WARNS OF U.S. ROLE IN MIDEAST

LD272114 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, has said that certain people are exporting problems to Yemen with the aim of obstructing its course toward unity. He explained that this was being done at the behest and encouragement of world imperialist circles.

In a press interview published yesterday in the Beirut magazine AL-KIFAH AL-ARABI, brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il explained that the problems of the Yemenis are internal problems which they should, in the first instance, solve by themselves without pressure or tutelage from outside Yemen.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il referred to the coming meeting of the two Yemeni presidents in Kuwait, expressing the hope that it would be serious and historic, held in an atmosphere of national responsibility and true desire to solve the Yemenis' problems and to progress with practical steps towards the realization of Yemeni unity.

Touching on the regional role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its friendship with the United States of America--the enemy of the Arab peoples, he said: The role of the two is reflected in the protection of their joint interests. He added that what is of interest to U.S. imperialism in its friendship with Saudi Arabia or others is the continued flow of oil and insuring the protection of Israel.

He pointed out that the gravity of the Arab political situation arising from the signing of the treaty of surrender between the Zionist enemy and the As-Sadat regime will require Saudi Arabia and the Arab oil-producing countries to take practical measures to strengthen Arab solidarity. Foremost among these measures is the oil weapon as confirmation of the clear Arab stance on the Camp David agreement.

He explained that by sending arms to the region before and after the events between the two parts of Yemen and the United States of America did not merely aim to avert what had happened in Iran and to preserve its interests, but also to frustrate the efforts of the Arab peoples and transform the Arab-Israeli war into an inter-Arab and inter-Yemeni war, or something like that which happened in Lebanon.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il warned against the dangerous role of the United States and stressed the importance of promoting relations with the USSR.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONDEMNS AS-SADAT

LD272012 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD/EA

[Summary] The PDRY Council of Ministers held an extraordinary session this afternoon to discuss the capitulatory steps taken by President as-Sadat. The Council of Ministers subsequently issued a statement condemning the steps taken by As-Sadat in the face of Arab popular and official condemnation and opposition. The statement says:

"By signing the agreement, the agent As-Sadat has imposed on our Arab region a painful reality with grave consequences on the entire Arab liberation movement. These consequences are:

"1. Egypt has for the first time abandoned the just struggle and legitimate rights of the Arab Palestinian people, after being in the vanguard of the defenders of the Palestinian rights ever since the 1952 revolution.

"2. Egypt has taken itself out of the Arab ranks, disengaging itself from the Arab peoples and placing itself in suffocating isolation, after being in the vanguard of the Arab liberation movement.

"3. Egypt has delivered a direct blow to the Arab national liberation movement, creating a deep breach in the latter's confrontation with the Zionist enemy, imperialist forces and colonialism, all of which are supporting As-Sadat under the leadership of U.S. imperialism.

"4. The appropriate climate has been created in the Arab region to provide U.S. imperialism with opportunities and breathing space for its new designs and conspiracies.

"Represented by its president, Jimmy Carter, the United States made great efforts to bring about and directly supervised the treaty of treachery and surrender accepted by As-Sadat, thereby attempting to consolidate its influence in the Middle East and its ability to strike a blow against liberation, social progress and the current of the new life. The new designs and conspiracies which the United States is devising in various places in both the east and the west of the Arab world provide conclusive evidence that U.S. imperialism is now moving in a practical manner to strike this blow. This is clearly demonstrated by the new suspect alliances which U.S. imperialism wants to impose through its military threats and intervention in the Arab region with weapons of destruction and ruin, and the movement of its aggressive naval fleet in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea.

"Because the agreement of betrayal and surrender has imposed this highly complicated and grave situation on the Arab peoples, it has become necessary and urgent that these treacherous steps of the agent As-Sadat be strongly and very decisively opposed. The consequences of this treacherous agreement require us to discriminate between two trends which place the Arab peoples, their governments, parties and organizations and mass groups in two camps: complete rejection of this agreement, standing against it and fighting its symbols as represented by the agent As-Sadat and his imperialist and Zionist allies; or supporting and blessing this treacherous agreement and falling into the quagmire of treachery and surrender.

"History will not forgive or accept after today those who adopt compromise policies or any lax stands.

"The situation created today by the agreement of betrayal and surrender makes it incumbent on all to help the Arab people in Egypt and their democratic national movement stand against the traitor As-Sadat, overthrow his agent regime and mete out severe punishment to him for what he has perpetrated against the Egyptian and the other Arab peoples.

"The PDRY, in these critical and grave times through which the Arab liberation struggle is passing, wishes to stress the importance of strategic cohesiveness with the real and faithful ally of the struggle of Arab countries: the countries of the socialist group led by the USSR. All the experiences of our Arab region have confirmed that the countries of the socialist group have been the real support for our Arab countries in their struggle for liberation, construction and social progress. Today under these historic conditions, our Arab peoples and their nationalist movement need to confirm their strategic cohesiveness with this faithful ally."

YEMEN--YAR

FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE NOTES DISAPPOINTMENT WITH TREATY

JN271245 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] A responsible source of the Foreign Ministry has announced that the YAR feels great disappointment over the unilateral treaty between Egypt and the Israeli enemy. The source pointed out that this treaty not only deprives the Arabs of a part of their power but also does not serve the just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian Arab cause.

The Foreign Ministry source urged all Arabs to further strengthen their efforts and mobilize their political, economic and military capabilities to consolidate their solidarity and to stand in the face of all plots and in the face of Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy.

The source stressed that the YAR fully adheres to the Baghdad summit resolutions and supports the unanimous Arab stand.

PRIME MINISTER MEETS WITH ARAB DIPLOMATS IN SAN'A'

JN271310 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani today summoned the Arab ambassador in San'a'. The prime minister welcomed the ambassadors and explained to them all the measures and steps taken to implement the resolutions of the Arab League Council which met recently in fraternal Kuwait.

The prime minister assured the Arab ambassadors that all steps are proceeding in accordance with the adopted policy. He emphasized that the forthcoming summit between the presidents of the two Yemens will definitely serve the Yemeni people's interests.

Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ghani expressed his gratitude to the Arab ambassadors for their close interest in the issue, interest which will achieve the Yemeni people's desire for stability, progress and unity. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministry under secretary.

AS-SADAT SENDS GREETINGS TO NATION ON SIGNING TREATY

NC271828 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1758 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Address by President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat to the Egyptian people on the occasion of the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in Washington--recorded; apparently given 26 March]

[Text] In the name of God. Today I address my greetings to all the sons of our people and convey to them the entire world's appreciation for Egypt, its history, its civilization and its position.

Today we signed the peace treaty, and we also signed the linkage letter providing for the solution of the Palestinian issue, which is the crux and core of the conflict. Today I send my greetings to everyone and everything in the land of Egypt.

Today all of us greet our armed forces, which made this day and peace possible following their wonderful performance in October 1973. Today I address every mother, wife and sister of our martyrs, and tell them that the sacrifices of our heroes and martyrs were not in vain. Today we achieved peace to begin a takeoff toward the widest horizons with a free will and complete respect from the entire world.

Maybe I am not able to express my true feelings, but I am confident that you have experienced these immortal moments with me. In the future, God willing, we will experience together the stage of rebuilding with our free will after the liberation of our land, and now that Egypt has occupied its position in the world.

Until I meet with you again I send you all my love, greetings and peace.

AS-SADAT STATEMENT TO HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

NC272016 Cairo MENA in English 1930 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Washington, March 27--(MENA)--President as-Sadat today told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that he is pleased to meet with them and pursue the discussions started some time ago on matters of mutual concern.

He said: "It is an established fact that the Congress, and your committee in particular, has demonstrated at an early stage a genuine interest in peace in the Middle East. We fully appreciate the efforts you exerted individually and collectively in this respect. Many of you have made an invaluable contribution, the president added.

Your support to President Carter's courageous efforts played an important role which did not go unnoticed. We need your continued support and interest in the months ahead.

"I am sure that you are quite familiar with the documents we signed yesterday at the White House. Therefore, I propose to outline for you our perception of the immediate future and my analysis of recent developments in the region.

First, I would like to tell you that we intend to honor every word we agreed upon and fully implement the two documents in good faith. We hope that Israel does the same. We will need a record of confidence-building, for the process has only started.

"A good test will be the coming negotiations on the self-governing authority in the West Bank and Gaza. We know that we will encounter enormous problems in this thorny area, but we are determined to give these negotiations every chance to succeed. Such success is [in] the interest of the United States as much as it is [in] our own interest. Having done our best and taken all these risks, the United States could enhance the prospects of peace by outlining its own conception of the self-governing authority with full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza. You can use your influence to moderate the position of the Israelis.

"As we advance along the road to peace, we will concentrate our efforts on reconstruction, we will depend basically on ourselves. We are determined to exert an extraordinary effort to revitalize our economy. We will improve our system of production. We will also rebuild our aging and overloaded infrastructure. We will tap all our resources for this campaign. We do not intend to pass the burden to the United States or any other power. We would appreciate any help we can get from you, but basically we will emphasize self-reliance.

"Much has been said about the United States paying the price of peace. We do not view the matter in these terms. Peace is too precious to be an object of bargaining.

"We are quite satisfied with the cooperation between our two countries in various fields. We think that a healthy partnership could be mutually beneficial. Recently, our cooperation has expanded to cover military aspects. Let me explain to you why we attach importance to this area.

As you well know, Egypt is in a unique strategic position. This entails that we assume a special responsibility in protecting the Arab world and a good part of Africa from foreign incursions and intervention. We are not looking for any military adventures. To the contrary, we realize the limitations on the usefulness of military operations in many situations. However, that leaves us with a heavy burden. This burden is doubled because many of the countries around us are unable to defend themselves against these foreign designs. We would like to be in a position to help them.

"We do not want the United States to act as the policeman in the area, nor do we intend to be the policeman for any power. We believe that only the peoples of any region can police it effectively in the manner they choose.

The old and worn-out concepts of power vacuum cannot be revived in the world of today. Each nation can fill the vacuum in its own area. The problem at this stage is not one related to vacuum but rather to intervention.

It is important that every people be enabled to develop and advance freely without any interference from outside. To ensure that, there must be any [as received] military power that could serve as a deterrent.

You can enhance security and stability in the entire region if you cooperate with us in the military field. This is not a proposed alliance or an axis. We are against this type of polarization; it generates tension and unrest. We adhere to the philosophy and policy of non-alignment. What I am proposing here is a relationship of cooperation among equals. In short, we want to be strong enough to maintain peace.

Remarks to Reporters

NC280633 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Washington, 27 March--President Anwar as-Sadat has affirmed that the rights of 700 million Muslims and Arabs in Jerusalem must be respected. President as-Sadat urged U.S. legislators to encourage Israel to cooperate in the implementation of the Camp David agreements in order to bring full success to the peace process.

Talking to newsmen today after attending meetings in the U.S. capitol with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations Committee, President as-Sadat affirmed that Egypt will honor all the clauses of the peace treaty, adding that he expects Israel to honor the treaty as well.

President as-Sadat said that some of the countries in the region depend on Egypt or seek her help in protecting their security. President as-Sadat affirmed that Egypt adheres to the principles of nonalinement because Egypt belongs to the nonalined group.

Today President as-Sadat won all-out support from congressmen and senators whom he briefed on Egypt's hopes and plans for instilling peace in the Middle East and achieving prosperity for the Egyptian people.

Meanwhile, President Anwar as-Sadat received, at his premises at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington, World Bank President Robert McNamara.

This evening President as-Sadat will attend a dinner given in his honor by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, where he will confer with a large number of U.S. businessmen.

Remarks on Begin Visit

NC272232 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2222 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Washington, 27 March--President Anwar as-Sadat has affirmed that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin will visit Egypt next Monday, as previously scheduled.

This affirmation comes after statements made by Israeli officials, and repeated by the Israeli radio, that Begin had postponed his visit to Cairo in response to a request by Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil pending the completion of the necessary arrangements.

Speech to Chamber of Commerce

NC280755 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Text] At 2000 Washington time yesterday, 0600 Cairo time this morning, President as-Sadat attended the dinner which the U.S. Chamber of Commerce hosted in his honor on the occasion of signing the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. After the dinner, President as-Sadat made a speech in which he said:

In the name of God. Mr Chairman: Let me first express my gratitude and appreciation and the gratitude of my people to my dear friend, President Carter, who is with us tonight, as an expression of his support for the prosperity of the Egyptian people, after having realized peace for the Egyptian people and all the world yesterday.

I came tonight to make a request and discuss with you the problem I am facing in my country, as I have always been accustomed to discuss the political aspect of our problems with my dear friend, President Carter. His patience, personality, boldness and courage led to the signing of a treaty between Egypt and Israel as the cornerstone of a comprehensive settlement for one of the most intricate problems in the world--the Arab-Israeli problem.

President Carter fulfilled his promise and we achieved peace. I want you to help us achieve prosperity. After the realization of peace, we shall immediately begin to achieve three aims which bear the slogans peace, democracy and prosperity. Peace has been realized, thanks to my dear friend Carter, who acted in your name and in the name of the American people and all peace-loving people in the world. His efforts were crowned by the signing of the peace treaty.

Democracy is my responsibility. I actually started applying it in my country 8 years ago. We do not have detention camps but we have the supremacy of law, democracy and the state of institutions. Directly after my return, I will submit the treaty to the People's Assembly. As I promised my people, we will start a dialog throughout the country along the pattern of the discussions which took place in Philadelphia. Amendments will be introduced to our constitution to insure more democracy in our country. Our country was under a central rule system for more than 7,000 years. We inherited the centralization of everything in the country.

The president added: I started paving the way for full democracy last January. I assigned the powers of the republic to the governors in their governorates. As I told you, after I return home, I shall issue a declaration of human rights. I will strive to achieve democracy. As for you, you will bear the responsibility to President Carter regarding our joint efforts to realize prosperity.

Let me tell you that on 5 Ramadan, October, 1973 and a few days before the October War, I summoned the National Security Council. We discussed everything, and each expressed his opinion. At the end of the discussion, I told them: I want you to know that our economy is below zero. When I said below zero, this meant that we would have no bread by the end of December. We had no hard currency and nobody would help us, for many reasons.

How could we handle the situation? We will not forget what Mr McNamara did. When the World Bank declared Egypt bankrupt, we had no foreign currency, at the time as I told you. Our economy was below zero. Mr McNamara asked the World Bank to declare us bankrupt. I received a special representative one day. He told me: Try to find $1 million at any cost and send it to McNamara. If you do, we will not declare you bankrupt. It was difficult for us then to find $1 million.

We started the peace process together in 1973. The United States started this process in a direct manner after the October War. Egypt followed the open-door policy. My colleagues in the Arab world sent me money urgently. We have been trying since then to adopt important decisions. We had to turn our war economy into a peace economy.

President as-Sadat further said: You have probably heard that I have toured my country from north to south and from east to west during the past 2 years. I will tell you what I found, because this will probably help you find a solution. In Egypt, we lived on 4 percent of our land when we were only 17 million. We continue to live on the same area now that there are 40 million of us. The amount of land now is what it was in the past. A U.S. land expert told me that he was working in one of the richest soils. He added: Nobody can believe the sweetness of the waters of the Nile.

I found millions of feddans of fertile land in Lake Nasir, the new valley and in the south opposite the old valley. Six billion cubic feet of sweet water go as waste into the Mediterranean annually.

We also have the Suez Canal. Let me here express my gratitude and that of my people to the U.S. administration and the American people. I thank you for helping me clear and reopen the canal to world navigation. You have paid 90 percent of the sum we needed. The widening of the canal, in which Japan is participating, will be completed next year, increasing canal revenues to $1 billion. We are planning to build a two-way canal by the year 2,000. We have also found out that we are now developing a big oilfield near Alexandria. It is fortunate that they have discovered another big field next to this field. We are producing our petroleum and are exporting part of it. We used to produce 1 million barrels daily, but due to Israel's position we are no longer able to produce this quantity. However, we shall regain our petroleum after 9 months.

We possess water, land, petroleum and the canal. What we need is technology. We need new methods of irrigation and agriculture. We can find all this here in the United States. Sinai is full of minerals. In accordance with the agreement we signed yesterday, thanks to President Carter, we will take over three-quarters of Sinai with all its minerals, land and everything within the next 9 months. We can work together. We have achieved peace, thanks to President Carter and the American people. We must realize prosperity for our people on a basis of partnership.

In conclusion, President as-Sadat said: Let me tell you that I am proud of my friend Carter and the courage of the American people. I am proud of this opportunity to present my case to you. God be with us and peace.

News Conference With Israeli Journalists

TA272216 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 2135 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat holds news conference with Israeli journalists at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington on 27 March, questions and answers in English--recorded]

[Text] A few minutes ago, a news conference President Anwar as-Sadat held with Israeli journalists at the Egyptian Embassy ended. We shall go over now to Dan Shilon in Washington. [Begin recording] [Shilon] My name is Dan Shilon, representing the Israeli television. Bearing in mind that the peace treaty with Egypt is the first step toward a comprehensive peace, can you define exactly, your exact attitude these days, toward the Palestinian question and do you really insist on an independent Palestinian state? And the second question, with your permission: Do you foresee a possibility that Israel will be urged to talk directly to the PLO?

[As-Sadat] Bi'smallah [Arabic, in the name of God], let me first try and salute the Israeli mother, my ally there in Israel. It is the first time I appear on your television. So let me seize this opportunity to salute the Israeli mother who was behind what we have really achieved since my visit to Jerusalem. The first question, for the first question...

[Shilon] Yes, Mr President, since the peace treaty with Egypt is the first step toward a comprehensive peace, can you define your exact attitude toward the Palestinian question and do you insist on having an independent Palestinian state?

[As-Sadat] Repeat again, please, the question.

[Shilon] Since the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt is considered a first step toward a comprehensive peace, could you define your exact attitude toward the Palestinian question and do you insist on having or establishing an independent Palestinian state?

[As-Sadat] I should like to describe the treaty not as the first step, but as the cornerstone for the comprehensive settlement, for the very simple reason that without solving the Palestinian question we cannot achieve permanent peace, comprehensive peace in the area. As I have reitereated before, the Palestinian question is the core and crux of the whole problem in the Arab-Israeli conflict. And as I stated in the Knesset when I visited Israel, I said: Even if Israel reaches peace with all its neighbors, without solving the Palestinian question there will be no peace. So, this is the core and crux of the whole problem and this may answer the second part of your question.

My attitude toward the Palestinians is that I have made my initiative and started my sacred mission to accomplish permanent peace in the area. For that, if we are after permanent peace, we should solve the Palestinian question. For that, in Camp David, as you know, there are two documents: the second one deals with the Palestinian question in detail, to a certain extent. And, whatever their attitude may be, let me tell you this because I want the Israeli public opinion to know this: Egypt has always had a certain responsibility and certain commitments toward its Arab colleagues, whatever comes out from those colleagues.

Yes, we must solve the Palestinian question and in Camp David II, I mean the document number 2, we can find the proper channel to start solving this problem. What I am asking is this: The Palestinians should determine their future. I cannot speak for them and nobody should speak for them. They should speak for themselves, so, let us start this process through the full autonomy and, according to Camp David, after a few years, we shall be sitting with the Palestinians to determine their future.

[Shilon] Mr President, you haven't answered the question about the PLO. Do you foresee a possibility that the PLO will be considered as the representative of the Palestinians?

[As-Sadat] Well, despite what they are accusing me of now, or what they are trying to do and the raids and the attacks on my embassies, too, in spite of all this, let me tell you a small fact: These people are desperate because they were ill-treated. It doesn't mean at all that I agree to their abuse or their attitude. Israel is living in the area and will continue to live there. There should come the moment when they find the way to sit together like we sat together--and I am proposing Al-'Arish for this purpose--to every one of my colleagues who chooses to come and sit down with the Israelis and solve his problem like I solved it. He will have the privilege and advantage that I didn't, because Al-'Arish will be waiting for him and he can sit there and start the peace process like I started it and suffer what I have suffered.

[Shilon] Mr President, may I give the floor to Israeli press, please.

[As-Sadat] Yes.

[Shalom Qital] Shalom Qital, Israeli broadcasting authority radio. Do you anticipate normalization with Israel within 1 year? After all, you agreed to open the borders after 2 months.

[As-Sadat] You see, the normalization with Israel will depend in the first place upon reciprocal gestures, from both sides. From my side, we are ready for the normalization, but let us hope that the hot statements that come from time to time from those Israelis responsible be minimized so that we can continue and give momentum to the peace process every day.

[Eli Nissan] Mr President, I am Eli Nissan of Israeli television. Following the question about normalization, could you, Mr President, indicate or describe any foreseeable area for a positive cooperation between Israel and Egypt in the near future?

[As-Sadat] Well, frankly speaking, there are lots, lots of areas. As I said, it will depend upon the attitude of each party toward the other and upon the good will and the neighborly relations that will take place between Egypt and Israel.

[Rosenfeld] My name is Rosenfeld of MA'ARIV in Tel Aviv. Mr President, how do you view the recent Soviet policy in our area?

[As-Sadat] Well, my view is this: It never changed. Since I ordered 17,000 experts to leave the country in 1 week--their attitude will be always to seek or to establish an atmosphere of no war and no peace, and in this atmosphere only they can fish in the troubled waters. I don't agree to this and there is something very sarcastic; they are attacking me now. I wonder: could they have attacked me if I had, if I had agreed to their proposal and met with the late Mrs Me'ir in Tashkent in '72?

[Rosenfeld] It was their proposal?

[As-Sadat] Yes, their proposal. It was their prime minister's, Kosygin, who is one of the troika.

[Shilon] Well, this was the first part...

[As-Sadat] I wonder what would have happened if I agreed to their proposal and met with Mrs Me'ir there and at that time we were defeated, after the Six-Day War, and for sure the late Mrs Me'ir would have done her best to translate the defeat into the treaty.

[Shilon] Well, so far the first part of the press conference with President Anwar as-Sadat. Now we will go back to the studio since the next question will be in Arabic. [end recording]

Cairo Radio on News Conference

NC280856 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Text] At 2230 yesterday, Tuesday, President as-Sadat met with Israeli journalists. He answered their questions and queries.

Asked about the peace initiative, his excellency said: The peace agreement is a step on the road to peace. Furthermore, without solving the Palestine problem it will not be possible to achieve comprehensive peace in the area. As I said in the Knesset when I visited Israel, even if Israel reaches peace with all its Arab neighbors, without solving the Palestinian problem it is impossible to achieve peace in the area.

The president added: I began my initiative so that later we would solve the Palestine question. As you are aware, the Camp David II agreement stipulates that it is imperative to solve the Palestine problem.

Regardless of the situation, I want Israeli public opinion to know that Egypt has always had a responsibility toward its Arab neighbors, and whatever comes out of these neighbors, it is imperative to solve the Palestine problem. It is incumbent on us to find the correct path leading to the solution of this problem. It is also imperative for the Palestinians to determine their own fate and speak for themselves.

Asked whether his excellency holds the view that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the Palestinians' legitimate representative, he said: Despite all the things with which they are now threatening us, let me cite a small fact: These people are desperate. It is incumbent on all of us to sit together at Al-'Arish and solve this problem.

Asked about relations between Egypt and Israel, he said: This matter can be achieved through reciprocal good will.

The president added: It is in the interest of the Soviet Union to make the area remain in a state of no war, no peace. His excellency said: The Soviets are now attacking us. His excellency asked: Would they have done this if I had accepted their proposal to meet with Mrs Me'ir in the past?

Concerning the negotiations on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza, the president said: The coming negotiations, which will begin after 1 month, will undoubtedly be the test and criterion of the peace process. Undoubtedly, these are going to be difficult and tiring negotiations. We adhere to the Camp David agreement which, for the first time, has delineated the specific course leading to a solution to this issue and to the implementation of self-rule.

Asked whether the Palestinians will participate in these negotiations, his excellency said: At this phase, the Palestinians might deem it fit not to participate. However, this will change nothing, because it is incumbent on the Palestinians to determine their own fate. Furthermore, we shall sit down to work out the details of autonomy and to set the Palestinians on the straight road to the exercise of autonomy, as stipulated in the Camp David agreements. This state of affairs will continue until the moment comes when we sit down after 2 or 3 years. The Palestinians should also sit with us because it is in their power to decide their fate. I will not be disturbed if they do not participate with us after a month, because this time the meeting will not be dedicated to self-determination.

Asked whether anyone, in conjunction with another Arab state, is trying to undermine the peace initiative, the president said: Time never goes back.

With regard to Jerusalem, President as-Sadat said: Just as the Israelis have their holy shrines, the Arabs also have rights to this city. We will never permit the Israelis to establish a right to Arab Jerusalem.

The president said that he is always optimistic, that the time will come when the rejectionists will give their consent, and that the Camp David spirit makes it imperative for us to observe good neighborliness. Whenever they make a mistake, I will tell them this frankly, even as far as the United States is concerned.

The president emphasized that the peace agreement is a comprehensive one, not a separate one, as is being said by some Arab states.

President as-Sadat again said that the town of Al-'Arish is ready to host a meeting of any Arab states. His excellency then said: It is natural for normal relations to exist in the future, if everything proceeds the way I expect it to proceed. The president again stated that the real test will begin following the signing. He expressed his hope that Egypt and Israel will deal with each other in a new way, whether at Al-'Arish, the Gaza Strip or Beersheba, so that we will waste no more time than necessary.

MENA Report

NC280952 [Editorial Report] Cairo MENA in Arabic at 2315 GMT on 27 March carries a 1,300-word report on the news conference President as-Sadat held with Israeli journalists at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington on 27 March. The MENA version is substantially the same as the Cairo Domestic Service report, except that MENA includes the following additional passage:

"President as-Sadat said that in accordance with the framework of the Camp David agreement, the city of Arab Jerusalem must be annexed--tudamm--to the West Bank.

"The president stressed that he will not agree that Arab Jerusalem should be subjected to Israeli sovereignty. Addressing the Israeli media representatives, he said: Let me tell you that as you have your holy shrines in old Jerusalem, there are 700 million Muslims, in addition to the Arabs, who sanctify Jerusalem. Nobody can deny them this right. When I say that we must not divide Jerusalem again by barbed wires, then I mean that you can pray in your holy shrines and the Muslims and Arabs can pray in their shrines.

"Regarding the city where the Egyptian Embassy will be established in Israel, President as-Sadat addressed himself to the Israeli journalists, saying: If you mean that we would establish the Egyptian Embassy in Jerusalem before the problem of Jerusalem is solved, then you are wrong.

"Speaking about the possibility of Yasir 'Arafat and the rejectionist front attempting to undermine the peace process, President as-Sadat said: It is certain that 'Arafat and the others in the rejectionist camp will try to undermine the course of peace and not the treaty alone. I was violently attacked after the second disengagement agreement but this has not changed the course of history."

NDP ISSUES STATEMENT SUPPORTING PEACE TREATY

NC272105 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 27 March--The National Democratic Party [NDP] has appealed to the Arab people to consider the peace treaty an historic event, and not to heed misleading statements by the powers which want to dominate the Arab nation. The party describes the peace treaty as a historic opportunity which had been unavailable to the Arab nation throughout the Arab-Israeli conflict. The party warned that this time negative Arab attitudes will be more terrible and far-reaching.

In a statement issued by the party's secretariat general to the Egyptian people, the party affirms that the peace treaty is a big step toward the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and that Egypt is aware of the importance of the next phase, which includes tedious negotiations. The party adds that these negotiations must be held in order to implement the commitments related to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The party notes that the treaty has fully liberated the Sinai and affirmed Egypt's sovereignty over its territories and territorial waters and the restoration of its natural resources. The party adds that the peace treaty is an integral part of the comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In the statement, which was announced by the party's secretary general, Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, the party says that the treaty has affirmed the restoration of the fraternal Palestinian people's rights and specifies the start of the establishment of self-rule, after which the Palestinian people will practice their natural right of self-determination--including the establishment of their independent state.

CAIRO RADIO REPORTS ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI STARTING

NC281022 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Israel began withdrawing from areas in northern Sinai this morning within the framework of the first stage of its withdrawal from the entire peninsula.

Military sources in Tel Aviv have stated that the acceleration in the withdrawal from northern Sinai is due to Israel's commitment to return Al-'Arish to Egypt before 26 May.

Informed sources in Washington have stated that U.S. President Carter has handed a letter to Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil explaining the steps Israel will take to lift some of the restrictions on political activity in Gaza and the West Bank in order to encourage the Palestinians there to participate in the forthcoming peace discussions. The letter was handed to Dr Mustafa Khalil at the luncheon the White House hosted yesterday in honor of the Egyptian and Israeli delegations.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE ON FREEZE IN ARAB LEAGUE ACTIVITY

NC271532 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that Egypt's decision to freeze its Arab League activity means that Egypt will not participate in any Arab meetings held under the auspices of the Arab League. The source said that the meetings that are currently being held contradict the Arab League Charter and are illegal, adding that the Arab states must first of all respect the charter.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENOUNCES ATTACKS ON EMBASSIES

NC272203 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2040 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 March--The Arab Republic of Egypt has announced that it will not be lenient toward anyone who takes the liberty of harming Egyptians or their interests and that Egypt will deal with these criminal and reckless adventurers firmly and toughly. Egypt also placed the responsibility for the outcome of these misguided actions on the shoulders of those who plan, instigate and finance these crimes.

This came in a statement by the official spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, who commented on the detention of the Egyptian ambassador in Bangladesh, Wafa' Hijazi.

The following is the text of the statement:

A criminal group of armed mercenaries this morning conducted a treacherous attack on the premises of the ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Bangladesh and detained the ambassador for several hours before efforts for his safe release ended successfully.

The Arab Republic of Egypt is aware of the treacherous hand, moving in the dark, aiming at harming these decisive and historic moments which Egypt and the Arab struggle are experiencing. Egypt appeals to all sincere Palestinian and Arab forces not to fall into the nets of those swindlers who are working to harm the Palestinian people's image in the eyes of their brothers--the sons of Egypt who intend to march courageously, forcefully and firmly under the leadership of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat to attain a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement as well as achieve a just solution to the entire Palestinian problem through the implementation of the treaties signed in Washington on 26 March 1979, which open the way for the Palestinian people to restore their national rights.

The Arab Republic of Egypt reiterates its previous announcement that it will wage bitter struggles to restore Arab rights and lift the sufferings of the fraternal Palestinian people and extricate them from domination. Egypt warns against the perilous effects which might result from this foolist and irresponsible behavior, and places the responsibility for the outcome of these misguided actions on those who plan, instigate and finance these crimes.

Egypt will show no leniency toward those who take the liberty of harming either the sons of the Arab people in Egypt or their interests, and will deal with these criminal and reckless adventures firmly and toughly.

EGYPT AIR FLIGHTS TO REJECTIONIST STATES SUSPENDED

NC272249 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2229 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 March--Egypt Air has decided to suspend its flights to Damascus, Baghdad, Amman and Aden.

In tomorrow's issues, AL-AHRAM and AL-AKHBAR newspapers say that this decision was adopted in view of the fact that the Syrian authorities are facilitating attacks by agents of the Syrian Ba'th Party against offices of Egypt Air in Damascus.

PRESS COMMENTS ON GROMYKO VISIT TO DAMASCUS

NC260808 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Mar 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "Moscow Is Still Not Ashamed," the newspaper AL-AHRAM says: It was not strange for Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko to hasten to Damascus to establish a nucleus to back the Ba'th regime, which is threatened with collapse on the rock of the peace treaty. This treaty has opened the way for progress before the outbidders to gain their rights if they are really serious about getting these rights, regaining their occupied territory, lifting the siege of war on their peoples, and giving the Palestinians a real opportunity to decide their future.

The paper adds: It was not strange for the Soviet foreign minister to fire the guns of his verbal statements from Damascus against Egypt and the treaty. This is because Gromyko is the only one among the responsible leaders of the Soviet Union who has lived throughout the history of his country with Israel and the Arabs. Gromyko raised the loudest voice at the United Nations in 1947, bewailing the sufferings endured by the Jewish people and defending their right to establish their own state in Palestine.

The paper draws attention to the fact that Gromyko was the representative of the first capital to recognize Israel, before the United States. Since the establishment of this state the Soviet Union has been the biggest supplier of Jewish immigrants, with whom Israel was able to establish an army to fight the Arabs.

The paper adds: During the October War, Gromyko was the messenger of the campaigns of pressure on Cairo to declare a cease-fire at the peak of our armed forces' stunning victories and the collapse of Israel's strongholds under the feet of the heroic men. Thus the paper expresses the belief that if Gromyko has lived through all this history, is it not difficult for him to accuse Egypt of treason and say what he likes to say as long as he and his country are not ashamed?

Under the headline "Gromyko and the Damascus-Baghdad Axis," the newspaper AL-AKHBAR says: It should be understood by those who do not understand that Gromyko did not take the trouble to land suddenly in Damascus because he or the Soviets want the welfare of the Arabs or because they are seeking the rights of the Palestinians and everything else they are saying in their propaganda trumpets. What is of concern to the Soviets is to work and fight against Egypt because it destroyed their influence, expelled their experts, and kept them out of the issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict after making it an issue of bargaining for their own interests.

The paper adds: The Soviets thought they could create a force to confront Egypt. They reunited Al-Asad and Al-Bakr after a long and bitter estrangement and brought about a reconciliation between the Ba'th Party of Damascus and the Ba'th Party of Iraq. They imagined that in doing so they have created a Damascus-Baghdad axis to serve as a base for the agents and lackeys. In conclusion the paper says: We say to the Soviets and their lackeys and agents that Egypt is bigger than they think, stronger than they imagine, and loftier than their plan, and tomorrow they will see.

AFP: LEFTWING PARTY DENOUNCES PEACE TREATY

NC271516 Paris AFP in English 1501 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 27 (AFP)--An Egyptian left-wing party today denouced the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in a communique issued to the foreign press here. The National Progressive Unionist Rally, which has two seats in the 360-member National Assembly, described the treaty as a "separate" peace and gravely threatening Egyptian sovereignty. It was reached after a series of concessions by President Anwar as-Sadat, said the party.

Under the heading "No to the Egyptian-Israeli Treaty", the communique criticised the security arrangements in the Sinai, and particularly the lack of linkage between the settlement in the Sinai and autonomy for Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The party also protested against the lack of provisions for Jerusalem in the treaty, and objected to any exchange of ambassadors before total evacuation of the Sinai by Israel.

The Progressive Rally Party added that the peace treaty was not intended to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, but simply to establish a new American pact in the area to take the place of the now defunct CENTO (Central Treaty Organization) and to isolate Egypt from its "Arab brothers."

The party called on the National Assembly, the Egyptian people and other Arab countries to oppose the treaty.

IRAQI, PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS DENOUNCE AS-SADAT AT RALLY

JN271410 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 27 March--Na'im Haddad, member of the Ba'th Party national and regional commands, has called on the Arab masses and their nationalist and patriotic progressive forces to shoulder their militant responsibilities by deepening their unity and strengthening the cohesion of their ranks in order to confront together the imperialist and Zionist machinations and to defeat As-Sadat's new conspiracy.

In a speech on behalf of the Ba'th Party at a popular rally held here today, Haddad said that the Egyptian people stand today on the battlefield to tell As-Sadat, the traitor to the Arab nation, "No to treason, no to capitulation and no to the alliance with imperialism and Zionism."

In a press statement, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Secretary General Dr George Habash said: The popular wrath we witnessed today against As-Sadat's treaty of capitulation and humiliation indicates that the masses' will is stronger than all traitors, imperialists and Zionists.

Zuhayr Muhsin, secretary general of the As-Sa'iqah organization, affirmed that the sweeping popular tide that we saw in Baghdad today confirms that the issue of Palestine lives in the Arab masses' conscience.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES HABASH, HAWATIMAH, OTHERS

JN272111 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2018 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 March--Saddam Husayn, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, met this evening with members of the Palestinian resistance delegation that is currently visiting Iraq at the invitation of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command.

During the meeting Saddam Husayn reviewed the current situation, the latest developments, and the phases in As-Sadat's decline to the point of betraying the Arab nation and signing the capitulationist agreement with the Zionist enemy.

Saddam Husayn stressed the stand of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Iraq toward As-Sadat and anyone who supports him.

The meeting was attended by Na'im Haddad, member of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Bureau; Muhammad Mahjub, member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and RCC member; and Nasif 'Awwad, deputy official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Bureau.

The Palestinian resistance delegation includes the following: Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP]; Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Zuhayr Muhsin, secretary general of the As-Sa'iqah organization; Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Front; 'Abd ar-Rahim Amin, secretary of the Arab Liberation Front; Talal Naji, PFLP general Command assistant secretary general; and Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi and 'Abd al-Jawad Salih, PLO Executive Committee members, known as Abu Isma'il and Abu Mahmud.

FOREIGN MINISTRY TO PUBLISH 'BLACK BOOK' ON TREATY

JN251001 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 25 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 March--The Iraqi Foreign Ministry intends to publish a black book on the capitulatory steps that have taken place between the Zionist entity, Anwar as-Sadat and the United States--steps coupled with the conclusion of a capitulationist peace between the regimes of the Zionists and As-Sadat. A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that the book will contain the most significant documents pertaining to the subject, and will be printed and distributed on a large-scale all over the world. He added that an authorized committee has already been formed in the ministry. It is made up of several high-ranking officials and advisers to prepare and publish the book.

LE MONDE CITES IRAQI CP 'MEMORANDUM' ON PERSECUTION

ID260831 Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Mar 79 p 5 ID

[Unattributed report: "Iraq: Communist Militants Reportedly Subjected to 'Annihilation Campaign'"]

[Text] With documents to support its case the Iraqi Communist Party has denounced the persecution inflicted on its leaders and militants for several years, which has intensified since the beginning of 1978. The report, dated January 1979, mentions that this persecution coincides with a renewed campaign against the Kurds and other national minorities.

As far as the Iraqi Communist Party is concerned, the report claims that "it is facing an annihilation campaign which nothing can justify. Several hundred of its members and cadres have been arrested throughout the country, according to carefully prepared lists, and they have been subjected to inhuman torture of a physical and psychological nature."

The report recalls the legal arsenal with which the government has equipped itself, notably the penal code promulgated in January 1969, to which was added in 1974 Article 200 stipulating the death penalty for anyone who joins the (governing) Ba'th Party's ranks while "hiding his previous affiliations" or who, after joining it, "maintains contacts with another party." Since 1976 this same article has been supplemented so as to punish by the death penalty anyone who joins another party after leaving the Ba'th.

The report goes on to assert that, in implementation of the legal provisions, the political accounts published by the Arab press reveal that members of parties affiliated to the National Front other than the Ba'th Party are arrested and sent to prison and subjected to physical and moral torture when they refuse to renounce their convictions.

A Communist Party Central Committee memorandum addressed to President al-Bakr and Saddam Husayn states that, in response to the Iraqi Communist Party's renewed commitment to the progressive line, "our party and our policy have been the subject of a press slander campaign both inside and outside the country.... This has been followed by several measures: the execution by firing squad and hanging of over 20 communist combatants and party sympathizers. At the same time the persecution against our members, their cadres, their leaders and their organizations has been stepped up."

The memorandum states further: "Thousands of citizens are persecuted for being communists or communist sympathizers. They are subjected to intimidation, sometimes accompanied by death threats. The psychological and physical torture frequently employed has assumed hideous forms. For example, the prisoners are beaten with pipes, burned with cigarettes and given electric shocks, blows on their sexual organs, stomachs or chests until they vomit; prisoners are hung up, have their heads plunged into toilet pans and are forced to perform degrading actions; others are taken outside the cities and shots are fired over their heads, and so forth. Some of those who have undergone treatment of this kind are mutilated or paralyzed. Others have been tortured to death. Many of those to whom this task of repression has been entrusted make no mystery of the fact that it has been decided to liquidate the Iraqi Communist Party."

The memorandum also mentions economic forms of persecution, notably against the party newspaper TARIQ ASH-SH'AB.

In an appeal enclosed with this memorandum the names of persons arrested or of whom there is no news are cited. They include officers, Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee members, executives, trade unionists, teachers and feminist militants.

SOVIET MACHINE BUILDING MINISTER BAKHIREV ARRIVES

JN261357 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1346 GMT 26 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 March--Vyacheslav Bakhirev, Soviet minister of machine building, arrived in Baghdad today at the head of a delegation on a visit to Iraq that will last several days.

Bakhirev told INA that the aim of his visit is to strengthen the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union, particularly in the economic and technical spheres and in the construction of projects.

He said that during his visit he will acquaint himself with the projects that are being implemented in Iraq in cooperation with the Soviet Union and with the revolution's achievements.

Meeting With Ramadan

JN271515 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 March--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and minister of public works and housing, and Soviet Machine Building Minister Vyacheslav Bakhirev discussed means of promoting relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union here today.

The RCC member said that Minister Bakhirev's visit will contribute to strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union.

During the meeting a discussion was held on means of developing bilateral relations in all fields, particularly in the field of technical industry. The progress of projects being implemented by the Soviet Union in Iraq and the possible implementation of other projects were also discussed.

The Soviet delegation arrived in Baghdad yesterday on a visit of several days to Iraq.

GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO

JN281545 Amman JNA in Arabic 1524 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 28 March--The Jordanian Government has decided to withdraw the Jordanian ambassador in Cairo.

KING HUSAYN RETURNS FROM BAGHDAD 27 MAR

JN271237 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn and the delegation accompanying him returned home from Baghdad at 1300 today at the end of a 2-day visit to Syria and Iraq. His Majesty King Husayn and Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr held a second round of talks at the As-Salam Palace at noon today. They completed the discussion of issues of mutual interest to the two countries.

CHIEF OF COURT INTERVIEWED ON HUSAYN'S TOUR, ARAB ISSUES

JN272106 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1845 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text of interview granted by Chief of the Jordanian Royal Hashemite Court 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf to a Jordan television correspondent on 27 March--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] What was the nature of the talks his Majesty King Husayn held in Damascus and Baghdad and earlier in Riyadh?

[Answer] His Majesty King Husayn's visit to Damascus and Baghdad and to Riyadh earlier was aimed at closing the Arab ranks and coordinating stands given these critical circumstances. It was also aimed at preserving and protecting Arab solidarity, especially as we are facing great difficulties in the Arab homeland and world pressures from various sides. His Majesty King Husayn meant to move--with Jordan moving with him--as a positive element in developing and consolidating Arab solidarity. It is natural that Jordan is the country qualified to play this role in view of the fact that Jordan is linked to a certain history and mission. It is also linked to the Palestine cause, its responsibility and pains, as well as the hopes of restoring rights. Jordan is directly face to face with these factors and bears a special responsibility in this regard that it will not relinquish. His Majesty King Husayn has never previously relinquished this role and thinks it is essential that he continue this role now. Fortunately, the results were very good. The response in Damascus, Baghdad and Saudi Arabia was excellent. The meetings he held with the Arab leaders were characterized by frankness, cooperation, mutual confidence and determination to stand fast, work together and build up Arab solidarity.

[Question] Are there tangible results, whether for the present or the future, from these meetings?

[Answer] Yes, tangible results can be found initially in agreement on the analysis of the situation and the elements of the problems the Arabs are facing together and on the way to confront them. Then comes the coordination of stands in various fields so that we insure support for ourselves. Yes, there were tangible steps that are useful to the nation.

[Question] The Arab foreign ministers' conference is currently being held in Baghdad. Do you expect this conference to succeed and what does the average citizen expect from this conference?

[Answer] The Arab foreign ministers' conference in Baghdad is being held to apply the Baghdad summit conference resolutions, which stipulated that should a separate bilateral agreement be signed between Egypt and Israel, the Arab foreign ministers would meet to implement certain steps in facing the problem and its developments.

The Arab economic ministers will join the foreign ministers for the same purpose. The Arab foreign ministers' conference that is now being held in Baghdad stems from the Arab summit resolutions. Jordan supports the Arab summit conference resolutions and their application. Jordan will be active in the Arab foreign ministers' meetings.

[Question] Do you think that another Arab summit conference will follow the foreign ministers conference?

[Answer] This decision is up to the Arab leaders. The Baghdad summit resolutions have several positive aspects. They are not all negative. Some of them are aimed at building an Arab stand, solidarity and Arab power. Therefore, they are resolutions reflecting far-reaching objectives and require application. Thus, should there be need for an Arab summit meeting, Jordan will be ready; His Majesty King Husayn announced and affirmed to his brothers whom he visited Jordan's readiness to respond to such an invitation.

[Question] Will there be any amendments or changes in Jordan's stand as a result of the recent developments, most recent of which was the signing of the unilateral peace treaty in Washington yesterday?

[Answer] In fact, Jordan's stand is derived from principles and convictions. Moreover, the recent events on the Arab and international level have proved the soundness of this stand. Nothing requires that this stand change. Of course, I am talking about the basic stands of the kingdom. For instance, since 1967 Jordan has called for a just peace and a just and comprehensive settlement that deals with all the Arab fronts and insures the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights, total withdrawal, the return of Arab Jerusalem, a comprehensive solution and lasting peace.

[Question] Observers say that large pressures are being applied to Jordan from various sides, including threats. If this is true, how much do these pressures affect Jordan?

[Answer] Jordan's stands are derived from its convictions and national pride, as well as from its proud commitment to the Palestine issue and Arab rights. These commitments are not affected by pressures. His Majesty King Husayn has publicly affirmed on previous occasions that the only pressure accepted by Jordan is the pressure derived from its national and pan-Arab conscience.

[Question] What will result from the UN Security Council's recent resolution regarding the settlements in the occupied territories and how will Jordan pursue its efforts in this regard?

[Answer] The recent UN Security Council resolution on the settlements was the outcome of intensive efforts on Jordan's part through long months and deep study of international reality and the region's situation. The situation in the occupied territory has become serious, for the Israeli occupation forces are going on with changing the material and human landmarks of the land. Israel has swallowed up Jerusalem, built around it, transplanted the inhabitants, planted settlements and has gone far in changing the landmarks of the occupied territory. By its move in the Security Council, Jordan wanted to direct the world's attention to this fact, which can with time hamper progress toward any kind of just solution, particularly if the landmarks are completely changed and Israel succeeds in imposing the fait accompli through exploiting and swallowing the land. Through this Security Council resolution, all the Arabs had the chance of highlighting this topic so that the world will remember--though some countries' information media are rejoicing at the process of unilateral peace or settlement--that this is the essence of the cause. According to the UN Security Council resolution, a tripartite committee will be formed by the council to come to the region and investigate Israel's measures. It will make a detailed study and then submit a report to the Security Council prior to next July.

ARAB LEAGUE EXTENDS ADF MANDATE FOR 3 MONTHS

NC270720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] On his return to Kuwait yesterday, Sulayman Shahin, Kuwait's representative at the Arab League, said that the Arab League Council, which met in an ordinary session in Mogadiscio day before yesterday, has extended the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon for 3 more months.

AL-HUSS, BUTRUS, SARKIS DISCUSS DEPLOYMENT OF ARMY

NC241344 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Mar 79 NC

[Text] The security situation, particularly the deployment of Lebanese Army forces in some of the positions vacated by the withdrawal of the Saudi contingent of the Arab Deterrent Forces, was discussed at the Presidential Palace today.

At noon today, President Ilyas Sarkis met with Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. During the meeting, they reviewed the repercussions of the Lebanese Army's assumption of the Saudis' security duties, and the next steps the government is to take to consolidate security and stability, establish legitimacy without any hindrances and normalize the situation in the country.

After the meeting, which continued until 1300, Prime Minister al-Huss said: We discussed the deployment of the Lebanese Army to fill the vacuum left by the withdrawal of the Saudi contingent yesterday. He added: Undoubtedly, there are gaps in the implementation of the operation compared with the plan agreed upon, which stipulated that the military unit assigned to the task must be a model in terms of formation, preparation, action and appearance, and that Lebanese Army elements must be deployed in all positions previously occupied by the Saudi forces.

Prime Minister al-Huss went on to say: During our meeting today, we focused on this subject in all its aspects, discussing how to rectify the situation and remedy the gaps that emerged during implementation.

At 1130 today, the president held a working meeting with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, during which they reviewed the general situation and discussed the results of the current developments in the area and their possible effect on the Lebanese situation.

After the meeting, Minister Butrus replied to a question on the nature of the meeting by saying that the discussions dealt with the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference, which is to be held in Baghdad. We also exchanged views on current subjects, and reviewed recent Middle East developments.

Asked about Lebanon's position at the conference, Minister Butrus said that it would be decided in light of the facts as well as in light of the general atmosphere and interests. Lebanon had approved of the Baghdad summit conference resolutions; naturally, therefore, it should adhere to them.

Asked if today's meeting made a comprehensive assessment of the negative and positive repercussions of the first steps to deploy the Lebanese Army in the place of the Saudi contingent, the foreign minister replied: I wish you would put this question to the prime minister, because this subject does not concern me.

Asked when he would leave for Baghdad, the foreign minister said: I believe on Tuesday morning.

Sham'un Criticizes Al-Huss

NC251310 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 25 Mar 79 NC

[Text] In a press statement today, former President Camille Sham'un commented on the prime minister's statement on the so-called gap in the deployment of an army unit to replace the Saudi contingent. Sham'un said: The army command, which approved the deployment plan, knows better than the prime minister whether or not there are gaps. He added: We permitted the army to enter [the eastern area] to safeguard its dignity and the good relations with it and to give it encouragement. We did so when there was no need for the army to be present in Al-Ashrafiyah, where there have been no problems or massacres.

Sham'un further said: We request Prime Minister al-Huss to stop making such statements and to act as a responsible man, not as a student who is the last in his class.

Al-Huss Answers Criticism

NC261933 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Replying to a question on former President Camille Sham'un's statement made today, after meeting with Interior Minister Salah Salman, that he is prepared to meet with Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, the prime minister said: I cannot see any use in meeting with former President Sham'un at present, especially after he attacked me with expressions the likes of which I am above using.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: I had no intention of answering what he said yesterday about my view on the deployment of army forces in the areas from which the Saudi forces had withdrawn, but since his last statement compels me to broach this subject, I must say that I am surprised by former President Sham'un's statement that the matter does not concern me. Who does it concern if not me--the responsible official in government? Does the matter concern him more than it does me? I act in the spirit of responsibility and base my stand on facts of which I am more aware than he is.

SAUDI FORCES BEGIN WITHDRAWAL 25 MARCH

NC251302 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 25 Mar 79 NC

[Text] The withdrawal of elements of the Saudi contingent with the Arab Deterrent Forces began this morning. The operation is being carried out by air and land. The commander of the contingent, Col Sa'd al-'Ashshawi, has ordered some elements to proceed to the airport with some of their equipment and has ordered other elements to go overland to Saudi Arabia. An air bridge has been established between Beirut and the military town of Tabuk in Saudi Arabia since 1000. Three C-130 military planes arrived in Beirut and began the airlift.

BADRAN MEETS WITH AL-HALABI IN DAMASCUS

JN261832 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran met today with Syrian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi in the Guest Palace in Damascus. In a statement to the JNA correspondent in Damascus, Mr Badran said that they discussed the subjects that will be referred to the higher Jordanian-Syrian joint committee at its next meeting, scheduled to be held in Amman shortly under the two countries' prime ministers.

Badran added that he and Al-Halabi discussed bilateral cooperation in various fields within the framework of coordination and cooperation between Jordan and Syria.

The meeting was attended by Syrian Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, Syrian Minister of State for Planning Affairs Dr George Huraniyah, the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus and the Syrian ambassador in Amman.

AL-ASAD SENDS MESSAGES TO EAST EUROPEAN, OTHER LEADERS

JN272009 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has addressed messages to the leaders of the following seven states: the GDR, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Indonesia and Bangladesh. This is within the framework of the intensive campaign that the Syrian Arab region is waging to expose the treasonous As-Sadat-Israeli agreement.

The president says in these messages that by signing this treasonous agreement President as-Sadat has created a very dangerous situation. What makes this agreement more serious is the fact that it totally disregards the resolutions of the United Nations and numerous other international organizations that stress the need for the total withdrawal of the aggressor Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories and underline the need for the Palestinian people to be able to exercise their rights.

The president says in his messages that the As-Sadat-Israeli agreement is not founded on a sound basis for peace in the Middle East. This means that the factors of anxiety and instability in the area will not only continue but will increase. These are the very same factors that brought about the Arab-Israeli conflict and caused it to continue for over 30 years.

In these messages the president calls for the exertion of efforts to stop this serious deterioration in the situation in the area.

It is to be recalled that the president had addressed similar messages to a number of world leaders.

AL-HALABI ADDRESSES ANTITREATY PROTEST MARCH

JN271356 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpts] The Arab masses in Damascus today staged a huge nationalist demonstration expressing their wrath over and firm denunciation of As-Sadat's treacherous and capitulationist treaty which he signed yesterday in Washington with the terrorist Menahem Begin under U.S. patronage.

Some half a million citizens gathered in the main streets of Damascus to express their rejection of the conspiracy and the treacherous capitulationist treaty.

The masses raised slogans calling for immediate implementation of the Baghdad summit's resolutions against As-Sadat's treacherous regime and for toppling this traitor.

Among those who participated in the procession were teachers, employees, workers, university and institute students, women's federations, artists, members of the various vocational bodies, peasants and many others. Members of the national and regional commands of the Ba'th Party, members of the National Progressive Front Central Command, ministers, secretaries of the various party branches, heads of the popular and vocational organizations, members of the peoples council, and Christian and Muslim leaders also attended.

The masses participating in the march sent a cable to President Hafiz al-Asad. The cable stressed that the Syrian Arab masses are raising the flag of challenge in the face of the plot and express their rejection of and wrath against the ruler of Egypt. These masses reconfirm their insistence on continuing the march of struggle. The cable said that the anger of Damascus represents the anger of the entire Arab nation.

The cable added that the Arab masses will support the people in Arab Egypt and will fight together until the downfall of the traitor and the defeat of the agent gang. The Arab masses will continue to support the Palestine question and save no effort or sacrifices for this cause.

Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi addressed the masses participating in the demonstration and talked about As-Sadat's treason and his disavowal of the Arab cause when the traitor signed the treacherous treaty.

Prime Minister al-Halabi stressed that peace, as the United States understands it, is the peace of aggression, expansion and settlement. The prime minister wondered what kind of peace this will be. Is it peace based on further confirming the occupation of Palestinian land? Is it peace that attempts to erase the Palestinians' political identity by offering them autonomy? What kind of peace will that be since it aims to consolidate the occupation of the Arab territories by expanding the aggression under the pretext of insuring secure borders? This peace, the prime minister said, aims to deprive the Arab nation of its nationalist aspirations and tasks.

Addressing the angry masses, Prime Minister al-Halabi said: The anger of glorious Damascus and the wrath of Arab Syria is the anger of the Arab nation which rejects As-Sadat and his humiliating treaty. Talking about the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the Syrian-Iraqi rapproachement, the prime minister said that this is the right answer to the nation's enemies and the basis of which to raise Arab confrontation to a stronger level.

ALGERIA

MEETINGS PROTEST EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TREATY SIGNING

LD271337 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Summary] The National Liberation Front has organized meetings and demonstrations in protest against the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel today in the principal towns throughout the country. In Algiers a meeting will be held this afternoon. In Oran, a meeting attended by 20,000 people is being held at present.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI SENDS MESSAGES ON AS-SADAT'S TREACHERY

LD272110 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September revolution, has addressed a message to all Arab kings and presidents following the signing by the defeated Egyptian president of the agreements and treaties of humiliation and capitulation with the racist Zionist enemy in Washington yesterday under the supervision and blessing of leader of imperialism, Carter. Here is the text of this message:

Praise be to God: Only God is praised when a calamity takes place. The vision and political predictions of the Libyan revolution have come true.

We have frequently and repeatedly told you that As-Sadat is a traitor. You said: The source of such charges is your bilateral differences. We told you that he would be closer to the Israelis than the Arabs. You laughed and said: This is also due to your bilateral differences. We told you that he is fighting us because he has decided not to fight the enemy at all. You said: Never, you are fighting a man whose main concern is to fight the enemy to liberate Palestine. This time we laughed.

Praise be to God who confirmed all that we said. The charges are now being turned into embarrassing facts relayed by satellites, and the world bears witness to the predictions of the Libyan revolution.

Praise be to God that the matter has come to light. There is nothing before us in the Arab homeland except black or white. But in order that we should not make the same mistakes, against which we warned, we must not henceforth accept those whose color changes like the chameleon--those who though living among us have their heart with the enemy. We tell you again: They have to keep only to one color; either white or black. How could the chameleon maintain one color? We must do to them what Jiha did to his donkeys. This is wisdom of deep significance, which our heritage preserves for us in spite of its humoristic nature. He began to hit the tied-up donkey and wanted to kill him, leaving the free donkey eating the crop. When asked why he was doing this, he replied that the tied-up donkey was the cause. The one which was free has eaten whatever he could; we must punish the other one so that it does not go on and eat the rest.

Thus, you are now facing a traitor who has committed his treason and is now with the enemy; you are now facing hypocrites who change color and who, if left alone, will destroy what is left. They are the true cause of As-Sadat's treachery.

They are the ones who finance and feed the treachery. This is on the one hand. On the other hand, there could be no aggressive high tide unless there were pan-Arab low tides. All of us, except the unionists, are partners in the crime through the anti-Arab unity, separatist attitudes. There is no decisive reply, now that the Pharaonic-Hebrew-American alliance against the Arab nation has been established, save the establishment of the revolutionary Jamahiriyah unity among Syria, Iraq, Libya, Algeria, the Palestinian resistance and Jordan, this operation being strategic entrenching on both sides of the grave strategic penetration which has already taken place, then the acceration of unity between North and South Yemen and consequently the unity of the whole of the Arabian Peninsula by any means.

There is still danger in ignoring the predictions of the Libyan revolution, whose correctness time has shown. This is because the Libyan revolution is the conscience and the true vanguard of the Arab nation; the vanguard does not lie to his people. These are established facts; this is the right direction; and this is the role of the Libyan revolution: It is a conscience which rebukes for the sake of right and good, regardless of what arrogant people might do. This is but a story. Peace and the blessing of God be with you. [Signed] Your brother, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

DEMONSTRATORS ISSUE STATEMENT ON AS-SADAT'S 'CRIME'

LD271612 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The masses who participated in the demonstrations of denunciation which took place in Tripoli yesterday released a statement, in which the following points are most important:

1. Full rejection by the masses of the defeated Egyptian president's practices against our Arab nation's struggle, particularly his signing of the treasonous treaty.

2. It is high time that every Arab should shoulder his national responsibilities by taking action against this crime to foil its implications at Arab and international levels.

3. The first Arab action is to unite in confronting this crime.

4. To fight American economic interests in the Arab world.

5. The belief of our Arab nation in the inevitability of victory against all forces of injustice, exploitation and dictatorships stems from the masses' revolutionary will which has been for ten years embodied ideologically and practically in the great first of September unionist revolution taking place on the Libyan Arab arena. It shoulders the responsibilities of our Arab nation's leadership to achieve liberation and unity, as all honourable revolutionaries and true free men do.

AL-QADHDHAFI SENDS MESSAGE TO NEW CHAD LEADER

LD271324 Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 27 March, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, head of the 1st of September revolution, sent a message to Mr Goukouni Ouaddeimi, the Chadean head of the Provisional State Council.

The text is as follows:

Your arrival in Ndjamena to assume the post of the head of the Provisional Council of State is considered a historic event in its own right, irrespective of any future developments and whoever would rule Chad later. It is a great event that you should return to assume this position after having been pursued along with [word indistinct] (?Chadean Muslims), by the Ndjamena authorities themselves.

You and your Muslim people have been shelled by all means of destruction from French Jaguars to government tanks. Your villages, livestock and possessions have been burnt after pursuing you in the mountains, not for any offense you have committed, but because you have demanded equality and freedom in your country.

And so events reverse and inevitably strike back at the (?oppressor). God, to whom be ascribed all perfection and majesty, desired as it appears "to be bountiful to the truly weak on earth, grant them status and make them the inheritors. God is with the oppressed and able to grace them with victory for God blesses whomsoever He will and degrades whomsoever He will."

Moreover, FROLINAT's victory proves that popular revolution is the best way to liberate the oppressed. I feel overjoyed, and so, I am sure, do your Libyan brothers, that this victory has been achieved through a true and strategic alliance between the Libyan people and the Front for the Liberation of Chad "FROLINAT", despite all the harmful propaganda campaigns against the Libyan people at international level which is inimical to the liberation of the people. Not only have the Libyans continued their brotherly and effective support for FROLINAT's struggle but they have also promoted it year after year until it was crowned by your victorious entry into Ndjamena today. If there is anything for me to add at the end of the victorious battle, the moments of which we have lived as one leadership for a just and common cause, it is that the people of Chad with all their different religious and ethnic groups should take over full power and completely block any form of rule apart from that of the people of Chad.

This is to enable the people by their own free will to destroy any internal dictatorship or foreign control, to manage their own affairs, to replace their losses in the war through production, and to substitute civil war by national unity. I reiterate that your Libyan brothers who did not abandon you during hard times cannot possibly abandon you at other times. The freedom of the people of Chad consolidates the freedom of the Libyan people and the Arab nation on the one hand and consolidates the freedom of the African Continent on the other.

I am fully confident that you will act in accordance with the stands taken by the Libyan and the Chadean FROLINAT revolutionaries who stood side by side until victory was achieved. "And victory can only be graced by [word indistinct]."

NIGERIAN CHIEF OF STAFF YAR'ADUA PAYS VISIT

LD232116 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Brig Shehu Yar'adua, Nigerian chief of staff, arrived in Tripoli tonight for an official visit to the Jamahiriyah lasting several days. He was welcomed at Tripoli International Airport by Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the Libyan foreign secretary, and the Nigerian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah.

Meeting With Al-Qadhdhafi, Departure

LD252127 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi last night received Shehu Yar'adua, Nigerian vice president [as heard] and chief of staff. During this meeting the situation of Muslims in the world, how their position can be improved, especially in Africa, and ways of consolidating relations between the Jamahiriyah and Nigeria were discussed. Also discussed were the steps taken to achieve peace in Chad, since the Chad reconciliation conference was held in Nigeria recently.

Shehu Yar'adua left Tripoli today after a 2-day visit to the Jamahiriyah. He was seen off at Tripoli International Airport by Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, a number of senior Libyan Army officers, the Nigerian ambassador in Tripoli and a representative of the Foreign Secretariat.

MOROCCO

KING RECEIVES NEW MINISTERS, SECRETARIES OF STATE

LD271500 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, in the Hall of the Throne in the Royal Palace in Rabat, has received the new ministerial formation. It is as follows:

Prime Minister & Minister of Justice	Maata Bouabid
Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs & Cooperation	M'hamed Boucetta
Minister of State in Charge of Posts & Communications	Mahjoubi Aherdan
Minister of State for Cultural Affairs	Hadj M'hamed Bahnini
Minister of Equipment & National Development	M'hamed Douiri
Minister of Religious Endowments & Islamic Affairs	Ahmed Ramzi
Minister in Charge of Relations With Parliament	Mohamed Haddou Echiguer
Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform	Abdellatif Chissassi
Minister of Interior	Driss Basri
Minister of Finance	Abdelkamel Raghaye
Minister of National Education & Cadre Training	Azzeddine Laraki
Minister of Work & Vocational Training	Mohamed Arsalan Jadidi
Minister of Youth & Sports	Abdelhafiz Kadiri
Minister of Social Affairs & Traditional Industries	Abdallah Charnit
Minister of Housing & Territorial Management	Abbes el-Fassi
Minister of Administrative Affairs	Mansouri Benali
Minister of Transport	Mohamed Nasser
Minister of Health	Rahhali Rahsal
Minister of Energy & Minerals	Moussa Saadi
Minister of Commerce & Industry	Azzeddine Jassous
Minister of Tourism	Abdelssalem Znined
Minister of Information	Abdelwahid Belkziz
Minister Delegate to the Prime Minister	Abdellatif Jawahiri
Secretary General to the Government	Abbes Kaissi

Secretary of State in the Prime Minister's Office in Charge of Planning & Regional Development	Tayeb Bencheikh
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs	Abderrahmane Baddou
Secretary of State for Higher Education & Scientific Research	Said Belbachir
Secretary of State for Cadre Training	Abdelhak Tazi
Secretary of State in the Prime Minister's Office in Charge of Saharan Affairs	Khalil Hanna Ould Rachid

The reception was attended by Gen Moulaye Hafiz el-Alawi, royal palaces and protocols and medals minister; his majesty's advisers Ahmed Reda Guedira, Driss Slaoui, and Ahmed Bensoudah; and Col Maj Ahmed Eddlimi, director of the office of his majesty's aides-de-camp.

Afterwards, his majesty chaired the first ministerial meeting of the new government.

HASSAN MEETS WITH NEW NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

LD271528 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, after receiving the new members of the government, received the National Security Council. It consists of the following:

For the National Grouping of Independents	Ahmed Othmanm Addaye Ould Sidi Baba
For the Istiqlal Party	Elhashimi El Filali Abdelkarim Ghallab
For the Popular Movement	Mohammed Haddou Abourkach Mohammed Khattabi
For the Socialist Union of Popular Forces	Abderrahim Bouabid Abdelwahid Radi
For the Party of Progress & Socialism	Ali Yaata
For the Popular Democratic Constitutional Movement	Achour El Bakkai

His majesty also chaired a working meeting with members of the National Security Council in the presence of the prime minister and minister of justice, Maata Bouabid; Mahjoubi Aherdan, minister of state in charge of posts and telecommunications [as heard]; Hadj M'hamed Bahnini, minister of state for cultural affairs; Interior Minister Driss Basri; Finance Minister Abdelkamel Raghaye; Abdes Kaissi, secretary general of the government; and Khalil Hanna Ould Rachid, secretary of state in the prime minister's office in charge of Saharan affairs.

The meeting was also attended by his majesty's advisers Ahmed Reda Guedira, Driss Slaovi, Ahmed Bensouda, and Col Maj Ahmed Addlimi, director of the office of his majesty's aides-de-camp.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR UK TO 'RECUPERATE'

JN271134 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 27 March--President Ja'far Numayri left Khartoum this morning for the United Kingdom on a 10-day vacation for recuperation.

INA: BA'TH PARTY CONDEMNS TREATY, NUMAYRI'S POLICY

JN271206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1116 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 27 March--The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Sudan has declared that the Sudanese people "are standing on the side of the Arab nation in its legitimate struggle for freedom and progress."

The party said in a statement it issued recently that the statement issued by the Sudanese president's office supporting Anwar as-Sadat after signing the capitulationist Camp David agreements was not an expression of the will of the Sudanese people, but was issued without even the approval of the legislative, political and executive institutions.

The statement says that the stand of the Sudanese regime has placed the state of Sudan in the trench hostile to the Arab nation. However, the Sudanese people will not accept hostility to the Arab nation and will not mar their heroic history with the shame of treason.

The party's statement affirms that the party is "opposed to President Ja'far Numayri's stand, which is treasonous to the pan-Arab cause."

The party's statement appeals to the Sudanese nationalist and progressive forces to escalate their struggle "to place Sudan in its proper struggle position as an inseparable part of the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist front and its criminal machinations."

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, URGES VIGILANCE

JN261118 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 26 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 26 March--President Ja'far Numayri has called on the Presidium of the People's Assembly to be vigilant. He said there are some people who are seeking to create sedition among us, to divide our ranks and to cast doubt on your leadership out of selfish motives to achieve their cheap ambitions and acquire gains they do not deserve.

Addressing the meeting of the Presidium of the People's Assembly yesterday evening, President Numayri said: Therefore, we demand the rectification of all these conditions, doing away with them, and making everyone who participated in creating them account for his actions.

TUNISIA

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA ENTERS HOSPITAL IN TUNIS

LD271452 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The presidency issued the following statement:

Within the framework of keeping watch on the state of health of the president and of conducting a full examination to ensure his balanced treatment, President Habib Bourguiba entered the heart diseases section at the military hospital in Tunis at noon today.

[Signed] Dr Umar Chedli, Dr Mohamed bin Ismail, Dr [name indistinct]

FOREIGN MINISTER ON SEPARATE TREATY, GREATER MAGHREB

LD271514 Tunis TAP in English 1357 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, March 27 (TAP)--"It is too early to speak about a settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict because the essential of the question has not been tackled yet.

The conclusion of one or several agreements with any other partner than the Palestinian representatives i.e. the PLO, can only represent a marginal solution which, we hope, will not complicate more the Palestinian problem and will not delay the liberation of Jerusalem, Mohamed Fitouri, foreign minister, stated during an interview with the Tunisian weekly "DIALOGUE."

Setting forth the guidelines of the Tunisian diplomacy, the minister stresses moderate positions concerning all the problems in the Maghreb (Tunisia-Algeria-Morocco), Africa, the Middle East and the world in general.

Concerning the situation in the Maghreb and the role that Tunisia could play in the settlement of the differences which oppose some countries of the Maghreb, Mohamed Fitouri recalled Tunisia's attachment to the setting up of the great Maghreb and the results obtained during the last years in this respect. But the minister added "some immediate priorities as well as the conflict on the Western Sahara have delayed the setting up of the great Maghreb. From that time on, (?we) are, moreover, ready if we are asked to undertake any action that would draw the peoples together and set up concord between them."

Answering a question relating to the crisis of growth that Africa is presently going through and to some serious conflicts in this continent, the foreign minister made a summary of the international policy since 1975 (the date of the end of the Indochina War). Since then "the confrontation camp of the big powers drew near Africa," Fitouri declared adding that "this new data affects the OAU activity (Organization of African Unity)."

Speaking about the Chadian conflict, Fitouri praised the outcome of the reconciliation national conference which has just been over.

Concerning the evolution of the non-alined group, the minister stated that after a first stage during which the movement already became a third power and contributed to the quickening of the decolonisation process, then a second stage during which a more just economic order in the world was clearly asserted. "His ascending movement has been faced since the Columbo summit with a problem which may to be fatal to it: Some are faithful to the movement's fundamental orthodoxy and want to maintain their independence and noncommitment towards the two blocs and the others are determined to divert the movement towards one of these blocs against the other." Such an ideological tension, he said in conclusion, may be fatal to the non-alined.

NOUIRA'S REMARKS TO LONDON ARABIC PAPER CITED

LD242204 Tunis TAP in English 1315 GMT 24 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, March 24 (TAP)--The paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT (The Middle East) issued in London, published an interview with Hedi Nouira, Tunisian premier and the PSD secretary general.

Question: The motto of the Camp David agreements was "Farewell to PLO" but this motto has not yet been put into practice. Don't you think these agreement reactions as it is the case in Lebanon? [question as received]

Answer: I visited the USA last November. I held talks with President Carter and his assistants. In the joint communique we issued we made mention of the Palestinian question. In this communique there is not a question of "Farewell to PLO" you have just mentioned. On the contrary it confirms the legitimacy of the Palestinians' rights and how to advocate them inside and outside the occupied territories. Moreover the PLO expressed satisfaction with the contents of this communique.

Concerning the future of the Tunisian-Algerian cooperation and the possibility Tunisia could be a mediater in the Sahara conflict Premier Hedi Nouira stated the cooperation with Algeria is still the same and exhaustive. As for the second point he said Tunisia is ready to play such a role if it is requested to.

Answering a question on the consequential effects of the Iranian revolution on the balance of forces and the Muslim countries' interrelations, the prime minister said this revolution has its specific criteria which are quite different from the Maghreb's, since in North Africa the political forces are galvanized by the struggle for independence while the Iranian revolution upset a model of society. Besides, in the Maghreb there is no religious power for we are Sunni Muslims (Orthodox) and no one has special powers.

Talking about the aid granted by the Arab oil producing countries to the developing countries, Premier Hedi Nouira made mention of the positive results reached by the 1977 Arab African summit which decided to grant 1 billion, 910 million dollars to the African countries to promote their development.

As for the internal situation in Tunisia and the causes of the January 1978 events, the prime minister sketched the origins of these events and the plots of their instigators who were aiming at shaking Tunisia's economy and unity, stating that such events somewhat restrained the economic efforts, but from the political point of view they had no effect.

Besides, Premier Hedi Nouira reasserted there is a perfect cohesion between the social partners. Concerning the liberation of the former Union of Workers Secretary General Habib Achour, he said only President Bourguiba can intervene in this respect and either reduce his penalty or grant him his pardon.

As for the Tunisian economy and its development, the prime minister stated it undergoes the consequential effects of the world fluctuations. Being a developing country, Tunisia depends on the world economy in matters of semi-finished products and equipments importation. However, Tunisia has to face the world crisis and create more jobs.

BEGIN TO VISIT EGYPT ON 2 APRIL AS PLANNED

TA280556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will visit Cairo on Monday as earlier planned. The Egyptian President told correspondents in Washington last night there is no truth in the report that Begin's visit was postponed by a week. The Egyptian and Israeli Embassies in Washington also confirmed that no change has occurred in the date of the visit.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH PERES, WEIZMAN IN WASHINGTON

TA271157 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Mar 79 p 2 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman, HA'ARETZ correspondent in the prime minister's entourage]

[Text] Washington, 26 March--Egypt's President Answar as-Sadat told the Labor Party chairman, Mr Shim'on Peres, yesterday that there is no alternative to peace, and that in time the other Arab countries will join the peace process.

During the 1-hour discussion between As-Sadat and Peres, the Egyptian President invited the chairman of the Labor Party and his wife to visit Cairo soon. Peres accepted the invitation gratefully and suggested that a Labor Party delegation join him in his visit. The Egyptian president agreed to this.

Before the meeting with As-Sadat Peres met for an advance talk with Ministers Dayan and Weizman. In the meeting Weizman sent his regards to As-Sadat and when Peres transmitted this to the Egyptian president the latter announced that he intended to meet with the Israeli defense minister.

And, indeed, yesterday afternoon Mr Weizman and his wife met with the Egyptian president and his wife for 15 minutes.

PERES INTERVIEWED ON PEACE TREATY

TA272110 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Text] President as-Sadat has invited MK Shim'on Peres to visit Egypt with his wife. In Washington our correspondent Eli Nissan spoke with him. [Begin videotape]

[Question] Mr Peres, what does this day mean to you? Are you happy with the peace treaty signed today?

[Answer] I am certainly happy with it. That does not mean I have no worry in my heart. For me this day is a victory for the Zionist ideal which aspired to peace with the Arabs. It is a superb achievement for the Israel Defense Forces which repelled all the attacks with unusual bravery. It is also an award for the State of Israel which, under unusual conditions, must build itself and with patience go from objective to objective. This is not the end, it is an important stage, we still face many problems.

[Question] What are your reservations concerning the agreement as it was signed?

[Answer] I have reservations not only about one thing. If we had not signed the agreement Israel's situation would have been unbearable.

Now that we have signed, the problems of Judaea and Samaria are ahead of us and also the problem of how to turn a signed paper, an important paper, into a living reality when, on the one hand, there are many rejecting and contradictory forces opposing us and, on the other hand, in Israel, too, there are still very many problems.

[Question] Mr Peres, it was my impression that the argument over the bilateral peace agreement with Egypt, at some point left the sphere of Israel's internal supervision, the sphere of internal political control in Israel. However, that was not so with regard to Judaea and Samaria. Now, in fact, do you see the development of matters regarding Judaea and Samaria when the public argument in Israel will certainly become worse?

[Answer] The argument, in my opinion, is not over the 5,500 km in Judaea and Samaria. The argument is over Israel's security, that we not create a situation where a Palestinian state will grab all of Judaea and Samaria and we will remain without a defense option. The argument is over independence, for America not to defend us, but that we will defend ourselves. And the argument is over relations with Arabs. In fact, if you want, the real argument is whether coexistence is possible without common dialog or, when there is common dialog, will there be any need for coexistence? We must come to an arrangement. I do not see that it will be possible to come to an arrangement with the PLO, the inhabitants will not go alone and we must return to the Jordanians. If they refuse, we will wait for them. [end videotape]

WEIZMAN INTERVIEWED IN WASHINGTON ON PEACE TREATY

TA272019 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman interviewed by Jerusalem television correspondent Dan Shilon in Washington, time not specified--videotaped]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman was one of the main participants throughout the negotiations with Egypt. After the agreement was signed, our correspondent Dan Shilon spoke with him. [Begin videotape]

[Weizman] I estimate that most of us still do not know what it means to enter an era of peace, which is different from cease-fires, from interim settlements. This is a period in which we will be able to speak with each other, I mean the Egyptians; this is a period when we will be able to visit each other; this is a period in which we will have to find out how to live with each other. And so, as in my married life, you cannot know on the first day what is going to happen. You hope, you expect and you make efforts to work it out.

[Question] From the reports reaching Israel, it appears that there is an atmosphere of caution, of a certain fear, if I may use general terms. How do you explain this?

[Answer] First of all I can say I regret it; second, I can confirm that this is so. Perhaps because of the fact that the process was a long one and I am not for the moment trying to cast doubts as to whether the process should have been shorter or longer; apparently in life every process has its time and its period of time. I said it was, perhaps, a little like a pregnancy, now that the baby has been born we have to look after it.

I am a little concerned about the relations, but, without any doubt, there are far [illegible]e fears than there were at the beginning of the road. If we take November 1977 as the beginning of the road, then there was a lifting of spirits, something new, an innovation. Perhaps it is good that there is a little fear, perhaps it is good that everybody should think twice or three times before every step, for every step may be decisive. But there is certainly a great deal more slowness and much more thought than at the beginning of 1978.

[Question] Mr Weizman, about 4 months ago, at the Blair House talks, you evaluated that it would be possible to achieve the peace treaty within 2 or 3 days and the negotiations were prolonged much longer than 2 or 3 days. As a result of the prolongation of the negotiations, have we achieved a better treaty?

[Answer] For the moment I think that it is superfluous to give evaluations about what we could have achieved. I think that today we have to live with what we have achieved. I think we have achieved a good agreement, that is, it is good for both sides without any doubt and I believe that if the treaty is good for both sides it is a healthy treaty and in my short experience in business, I learned that a business which is good for both sides is a good one. A business which is good for only one side will collapse at once. And since I believe it to be good for both sides, for us too, if we have signed a treaty, theoretically today, tomorrow or the day after that, a ship of ours, whether a warship or a merchant ship, can go through the Suez Canal. And this is not theoretical; it will go through. The very fact that they, the prime minister of Israel and the president of Egypt, sat together on a podium, not, it is true, for the first time, and all the mingling of the Egyptians and the Israelis, of all types and all kinds, within the courtyard of the White House, with handshakes, with smiles, with embraces--some with more and some with less--I think that this is a very great achievement and perhaps I am cautious in what I am going to say, but I must say it: In the final analysis, what I said earlier about married life, in the final analysis, what happened today is that we signed the marriage contract. We gave a guarantee of a dowry, a most serious one and, in fact nobody in his married life looks at what is written in the marriage contract, you put it in the cupboard and begin to live together. And that is the most important thing.

[Question] Mr Defense Minister, with regard to the life together, what can we expect in the negotiations over the East Bank, on the eastern border? Is there any possibility that the Americans will push us or force us into direct or indirect negotiations with the PLO?

[Answer] As for being pushed or if there is any possibility, of course the answer is yes. Today's question is how much we believe we were pushed to this day: I think we were not pushed. It depends on us, how much we will allow ourselves to be pushed and we will have to stand by what we signed at Camp David. There is no doubt of this. I do believe that in the greatness of the time, after 30 years, using many cliches, we have stood up to so much blood, so many sacrifices and this is not boasting, they are the facts of life.

I returned to the hotel after the signing of the treaty and I shut myself up in my room, I tried to doze and I could have written a book about the thoughts that went through my head.

About periods, battles, ups and downs in the 30 years in which I took--sometimes more, sometimes less--part in those moves which established the State of Israel. I saw the faces of my friends, some of whom are already forgotten--their faces are forgotten but their names are remembered, from many years, many moves--and also including friends who, thank Heaven, are alive, who took a large part in the whole process. And so I have no doubt that the process is not over. We are standing at a sort of crossroads, a basic crossroads, a crossroads at which I have felt exaltation at moments and I still feel it and I estimate that I will feel it in the future and in my evaluation, my colleagues also feel it. But the question of whether we will still have to stand up to pushing and pressures by others, the answer is certainly yes.

[Question] Are we planning new settlements?

[Answer] Look, we have a settlement program and I advised the President of the United States, as much as I can advise him, and I think that on our affairs I certainly can advise him, and also in my talks with President as-Sadat a year ago that the problem is not how many settlements we are considering. There is also some sort of limit of land there. The problem with our friends, and the other side understands, is that what we are looking for today is coexistence. And the solution we found, which is a difficult solution, a sharp one, a painful one in Sinai, and I am repeating myself, I said that in the past we made sacrifices in battles, so I have no doubt, and this may be a good recommendation for the settlers of the Rafah approaches, and they should forgive me if they think that it is a recommendation. [sentence as heard] There are sacrifices of the peace, I have no doubt. And so I do not think that, at the moment, it is possible to say whether we will settle more or less. The question is whether the two sides will find the way to live together. And we, in Judaea and Samaria and in Gaza, will have to find the way to live together. And that is the secret of autonomy which still has to be interpreted, that is a part of autonomy's secrets. First, I think that with a great deal of good will the correct solution can be found.

[Question] And finally, sir, by virtue of your position as the minister of defense in days of peace, what does security mean?

[Answer] First, I welcome the luck, fate, history which gave me the opportunity and the right to take part in these great days as the minister of defense in the Government of Israel, the Government of Israel which brought peace with Egypt. I want to point out that I am a minister of defense during the first peace treaty with Egypt. We do not yet have peace with Syria, nor with Iraq, nor with Jordan. And so, with all the exaltation, with all the good feeling in the heart, we must be prepared, and we will be prepared. I hope that through correct moves by the defense establishment in Sinai over the next 3 years we will establish friendship with Egypt and the life of peace with Egypt in such a way that Syria, Iraq and Jordan, will come and ask for the solution suitable for them in the north and will not go after the solutions where they have failed over 30 years, the solution of war. [end videotape]

MINISTER EHRLICH INTERVIEWED ON COST OF PEACE

TA272236 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Text] And what about the economic burden Israel will have to bear with the implementation of the peace agreement?

Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich's reaction is reported in an interview from Washington. [begin videotape]

[Ehrlich] First of all, for me there will be a drop in tension. In another 2 or 3 years we will also feel a drop in the security tension, from the financial aspect. This will make it easier for us to improve the economy in civilian, industrial, agricultural, social fields. In the meantime, we will have to make something of an effort, and as for the peace, which has now broken out as they say, we will feel its calming results in another 2 or 3 years.

[Question] But what is so depressing now, according to publicity we will receive a larger grant, more loans?

[Answer] From all I have heard and absorbed here in Washington, the capital of the United States, we have good chances of an easing grant and the credit we will receive for the rehabilitation of the IDF in the Negev. For, after all, all of the outlay we are asking from the United States depends only on the implementation of peace. We explained to the Americans, and they understood this, that signing a peace agreement, a peace treaty, without implementing it, turns it into a piece of paper and we intend to implement it. The implementation of the agreement will demand an enormous outlay and we do not have the strength to carry it. The Americans know this very well. Therefore they understood, they are promising to make it easier for us, both with the grant and with credit, for we must know the conditions of the credit, under what conditions we will repay it, what sort of interest. I hope we will be pleased.

[Question] But sir, practically speaking it appears to us, even from the distance from which we look at Israel from the United States, that in spite of the great efforts to arrive at peace, the main problem for the moment, within the State of Israel, or the main problem occupying the citizens of Israel, is the inflation, domestic problems, social problems. Do you expect rapid solutions to this?

[Answer] Efficient solutions are not speedy ones. The inflation concerns us from the national viewpoint. The public is showing an awareness of the problem of the inflation from the national viewpoint, from the personal viewpoint the public almost does not feel it. On the contrary, our standard of living has risen and peace should increase the inflation, because we will import $3 billion and export many billions of Israeli pounds for things we do not produce; that is, for the infrastructure and the IDF bases in the Negev. But we will try to make efforts so that this flow of dollars will not affect the inflation in the country and so we will be able to have an economic convalescence.

[Question] Mr Ehrlich, with your permission, in the field of party politics: Will you recommend that this government ask for renewed confidence after achieving the peace treaty?

[Answer] I have not yet decided whether to recommend it, but it seems to me that the Likud, headed by the prime minister, has all the objective conditions to ask for a renewal of confidence because the Likud took responsibility and in its platform the first clause was bringing peace to the State of Israel. This clause we have achieved and fulfilled.

Now we must renew the mandate so we can put several more programs into operation in the economic and social fields which we will not manage in the time left to us and we will not be able to do many things which should be done, because of the composition of the Cabinet.

[Question] From your remarks I see a trend to ask that the elections be brought forward.

[Answer] The trend--if I can phrase it like this, you are a good student--I am prepared to attest to that. [end videotape]

IDF BEGINS FIRST PHASE OF SINAI EVACUATION

TA271614 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Text] This morning, the morning after the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, an order was given and the IDF began to carry out Phase A of the evacuation of Sinai. Our military correspondent Tal (Rabinam) reports that, in accordance with the order which came from the Ministry of Defense, the chief of staff instructed the IDF quartermasters' division to begin carrying out the evacuation work. The main activity carried out today was evacuating supplies, ammunition and fuel from the northern sector of Sinai.

PEOPLE BEGIN TO MOVE BETWEEN EGYPT, ISRAEL

TA271137 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Mar 79 p 4 TA

[Text] Yesterday, about 180 persons traveled from Egypt to Israel within the framework of the exchange of people. Among those who traveled to Israel are returning inhabitants and visitors. The Israeli and Egyptian officers who supervised the exchange greeted each other warmly.

Most of the arrivals noted that Egypt's residents welcome the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel. Nevertheless, they noted that the Egyptian students are opposed to the agreement and a tense atmosphere has developed on campuses since the signing of that agreement.

LAND AUTHORITY SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH UPROOTED ARABS

TA271439 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The first agreement of its kind has been signed between the Israeli Land Authority and 18 uprooted families of the village of ('Anan) in the Galilee. According to this agreement, each family will receive a tract of land for a symbolic price and a loan from the Housing Ministry to build a house on it. In exchange, the families have given up their properties and lands in the village they left.

Up to now these families have been living in shacks and tin huts in the village of Rama on the Akko-Zefad Road. The Land Authority is now negotiating with the other 38 families of the village of ('Anan) in order to reach a similar agreement.

Our correspondent Yoel Dar points out that this is the first agreement between inhabitants who left their villages during the Independence War and the Israeli Land Authority.

AL-'ARISH CROWDS REJOICE, YAMIT RESIDENTS MOURN

TA280939 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Large crowds in Al-'Arish went out into the streets to demonstrate support for peace, President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin. Egyptian flags were hoisted on almost all houses. About 15,000 people went out into the streets on trucks decorated with signs expressing support for President as-Sadat and pictures of him, the prime minister and President Carter. Our correspondent Shalom Oren says that the residents of Al-'Arish originally wanted to march in the direction of the buffer zone but they were not allowed to. There are no disruptions in the streets of the town and policemen and soldiers are directing traffic.

Several dozen inhabitants in the Yamit district went out into the main road this morning for what they call the march of the refugees. They are carrying effects on their shoulders and with their slow walk they are disrupting traffic headed to northern Sinai. In their opinion, they are also preventing the beginning of the IDF's evacuation.

Tires were also set on fire in the intersections near the Shalom Center, Sadot and Ne'ot Sinai to protest the government's policy.

27 MAR SITUATION IN WEST BANK REPORTED

TA271718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Text] There was a partial commercial strike in Ramallah today. In the other towns of Judaea and Samaria life returned to normal. Only the schools and colleges are closed, by order of the military government, until the end of the week. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that services returned to normal today and the workers went to work in Israel after the general strike yesterday to protest the peace agreement.

GAZA NOTABLES CONDEMN PEACE TREATY

TA271448 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Gaza Strip notables have issued a manifesto sharply condemning the peace treaty and congratulating the rejectionist front countries for their efforts to liberate the conquered lands. The signatories on the manifesto say that the treaty includes a dangerous deviation because it ignores the demand that Israel should completely withdraw from the territories, including East Jerusalem.

Our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar reports that the manifesto was read by two notables during the prayers in the big mosque of Gaza. Among its initiators are Hasham ash-Shawwa, the chairman of the citrus growers organization, and Haydar 'abd al-Shafi, a fervent supporter of the PLO.

Our correspondent remarks that the Gaza mayor, Rashad ash-Shawwa, was also invited to the ceremony of the reading of the manifesto to the worshippers. However, he refused to attend, explaining that he had a cold.

FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMS GOVERNMENTS OF WITHDRAWAL FROM CENTO

LD271124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Islamic Revolutionary Government of Iran yesterday officially informed the governments of Turkey, Pakistan and Britain about Iran's withdrawal from CENTO. A memorandum from the Foreign Ministry to the embassies of the above-named countries in Tehran states that inasmuch as the great revolution of the Iranian nation requires certain fundamental and basic changes in this country's foreign policy--which require Iran to follow an independent policy based on the principles of the UN Charter and to adopt a policy of genuine nonalinement in Iran's international relations--therefore, the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government of Iran, taking into consideration the provisions of the announcement dated 11 March 1979 of the Foreign Ministry of the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government of Iran, announces its withdrawal from CENTO effective today, 27 March.

TEHRAN RADIO REPORTS ON CLASHES IN TURKOMAN AREA

LD271804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, there are uncorroborated reports that some 15 persons have been killed and over 40 wounded in clashes in Gonbad-e Kavus which began last night and have continued today. Those wounded during these clashes are receiving treatment in hospitals in Gonbad-e Kavus. An earlier clash took place on 25 March, during which a 17-year-old Turkmen youth was killed, and shops and schools in Gonbad-e Kavus were closed.

There was a persistent rumor in Gonbad-e Kavus this morning that the (?Bashiran) border posts had been disarmed by armed Turkmens. Meanwhile, one of the religious leaders in Gonbad-e Kavus requested that a mission be sent from Tehran to Gonbad-e Kavus to work for a cessation of hostilities between the clashing groups. According to a dispatch from our Gorgan radio correspondent, following the incidents in Gonbad-e Kavus yesterday afternoon, a meeting was held by Gonbad-e Kavus Turkmens in the grounds of the Qabus tower, and following the meeting a clash took place.

At 2200 last night, according to statistics supplied by the Gonbad-e Kavus Red Lion and Sun Society, the casualties during these incidents were accouned as 7 persons killed and 20 wounded. According to our correspondent's dispatch the city of Gonbad-e Kavus was almost calm from midnight last night until about 0500 this morning, at which time firing started once again. By 1300 this afternoon, according to corroborated statistics, 16 persons had been killed and some 50 were wounded as a result of the incidents in Gonbad-e Kavus. Uncorroborated reports put the number of those killed at 20 persons. We have received a report that all the shops and offices in Gonbad-e Kavus are closed. A quantity of blood and medical equipment was sent to Gonbad-e Kavus this morning by the 5th Azar hospital in Gorgan.

According to a Gorgan radio correspondent, the governor of the city of Gonbad-e Kavus, Mr Madarshahi, left for Tehran by order of the Interior Ministry.

UPI reported from Tehran that the armed tribesmen, who were supported by Marxist guerrillas, today occupied the gendarmerie and police station in Gonbad-e Kavus, in the vicinity of the Iranian-Soviet border.

According to UPI, the Turkmens living in northeast Iran, aided by the Iranian people's Feda'i-ye guerrillas, today occupied police and gendarmerie stations in a bloody battle which left at least 8 killed and 30 wounded. UPI said that today's attack in the restive areas inhabited by Turkmens took place a week after the Marxist guerrillas helped the Kurds in their attempt to take over the city of Sanandaj.

Taleqani on Events in Gonbad-e Kavus

LD271804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Here is a message from His Eminence the Ayatollah Taleqani to our compatriots pertaining to the events in Gonbad-e Kavus:

[Taleqani--beging recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Trust in God and unto Him is the final goal. We were barely unburdened of the problem of Kordestan and the administration of affairs in that area when we heard unpleasant tidings from the Gonbad-e Kavus region pertaining to the conditions of our Turkmen brothers. It appears that the foes of the homeland and people are not shrinking these days from any sedition and instigation vis-a-vis the progress of our revolution, and are plotting against it by various means. (?Base) plots, which are in the first phase, are aimed at our nation's multiplicity of ethnic and cultural groups. And there is no doubt that this will be fanned in other parts of the country, particularly because the oppression and injustice of the satanical system which ruled our country for many long years in the past, created a favorable ground for plots and instigations. This pharaonic path, with the support of its colonialist masters, succeeded in turning our homeland into classes which were then separated by artificial and stratified barriers. "Truly, pharaoh elated himself in the land and broke up its people into sections, depressing a small group among them." [Koranic quotation] Indeed, division and enmity among the people of this land have been and will be tantamount to an effective means for the influence of colonialism and sovereignty by despotism and elation in the land. Understanding and brotherhood are exceedingly unpalatable to the enemies of the people. Now that the evil system of paganism and enmity has collapsed, thanks to the monotheistic vigilance of our people "so that by His Grace, ye became bretheren" [Koranic quotation], you should further strengthen this monotheistic tie of brotherhood and power-creating understanding, and chant much louder in your own ears the command: "And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God stretches out for you." [Koranic quotation] Bolster your social and economic foundations so that we may become stronger daily, and so that we may turn the satanical machinations against the plotters and enemies.

His Eminence the Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian revolution, has often (?told you sincerely) that for us and our school, internal borders between Turks, Persians, Kurds, Arabs, Baluchis, Turkmens and others like them have no validity whatsoever. The main thing is Iranian and Islamic solidarity, brotherhood and equality which we all should strive to strengthen. Therefore, with the might and power of God and with confidence in the care displayed by all the oppressed people of Iran we will never allow the seditions of colonialism and its agents, who are striving to kindle the fires of discord and civil war, to bear results. God willing, we will not allow the just struggle of the Iranian people to be diverted from its right course and cause civil war under the pretext of separatism.

This task has compelled me to say a few words pertaining to the appreciable problems of the Gonbad-e Kavus region, and to call on both the government and all brothers, sisters and my sons in that part of the world to cease all types of hostilities and violent clashes, aggression and military intervention by every individual or group, and to establish calm throughout the region until an appropriate peaceful atmosphere may be brought about which is conducive to talks, understanding and the solution of problems. Aggression and hostile clashes not only have not helped sort out things, but rather are making problems even more complex and, therefore, should be condemned.

The affliction of our Turkmen brothers and sons are fundamentally and generally the selfsame affliction of all the troubled and oppressed people in other parts and provinces in the country, and are nothing but the results of the poverty and indigence caused by the rule of Satan. Our people in this region in particular are suffering an unequal distribution of land and agrarian problems which should be solved in a just manner. The satanical regime, headed by the court, even refrained from using the trite land reform expressions. Therefore, we expect the government to give priority attention to taking suitable and adequate steps on this matter.

As was laid down for the country's other provinces, particularly Kordestan, the administration of the internal affairs of the provinces should, as far as possible, be run by the people themselves in consultation with and by setting up town and rural councils. Maximum respect should be given to the habits, traditions and culture of regions.

Pertaining to the prosecution and punishment of criminals, nobody has the right to interfere without permission from the competent judicial authorities.

I expect my Turkmen faithful brothers and sons, particularly the zealous youth, to ignore all sorts of attempt at sowing discord and bringing up such issues as Shi'ism and Sunnism, which in accordance with Islamic principles are not at all different from our standpoint, and to prove with the necessary coolness and fortitude their vigilance and ability to take over their own affairs and progress along the open course of the Islamic revolution in the entire country. Peace be on him who follows guidance. [end recording]

Interior Minister's Appeal

LD280928 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Mr Ahmad Sadr Haj Seyyed-Javadi has sent a message to the people of Gonbad-e Kavus. I draw your attention to the text of this message:

[Seyyed-Javadi--begin recording] In the name of the Almighty: Honorable people of Gonbad-e Kavus and environs: The occurrence of unpleasant events in the Gonbad-e Kavus region has greatly affected and grieved the entire Iranian nation, especially the Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution. Official reports and confirmed news indicate that the clashes of the last few days took place between the residents of that region, and that none of the security units were involved in these incidents. Tranquillity in this part of our beloved country has regretfully been disrupted due to provocation by a number of individuals related to the barbaric and despotic previous regime and antirevolution elements. Dear Turkmen brothers and respectable citizens of Gonbad, too, without noting these provocations, opened fire and continued to shed blood among themselves. Extensive efforts by various groups to mediate and to prevent fratricide have not been successful.

The Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution expresses sympathy with the relatives of those killed in the clashes of the last few days. It requests the dear compatriots and inhabitants of Gonbad-e Kavus city to put an end to fratricide right now, not to shed each other's blood for no reason and to give the three-man delegation of high-ranking officials, to be sent on the morning of 28 March to Gonbad-e Kavus, an opportunity to establish a cease-fire between the parties and to investigate the regional issues and difficulties and find reasonable and [word indistinct] solutions. They will propose the solutions to the government for final decisions. [end recording]

Government Holds Security Posts

LD280932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic revolution committee of Gonbad-e Kavus announced that, contrary to previous reports, the police and gendarmerie positions are held by officials of the Islamic revolution government.

KHOMEYNI WARNS AGAINST BALLOT BOX SABOTAGE

LD281115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A group of revolution guards, soldiers from various barracks and several women met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, last night. At this meeting, Imam Khomeyni said in a statement: On 30 March, which is the voting and referendum day, agents of the previous regime intend to sabotage the ballot boxes. We ought to guard these boxes. The leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution referred to women's participation and their effort in the success of the Islamic movement, emphasizing that this movement ought to be protected through the unity of purpose. Imam Khomeyni emphasized that we have not attained complete victory yet, and if we think that we are victorious, we might become slack; for man struggles while on the way, but when he reaches the desired destination, slackness takes over. We are still on the way, he said.

KHOMEYNI WILL ACCEPT NO COMPROMISE OVER JERUSALEM

JN271729 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Hani al-Hasan, the PLO representative in Tehran, said that Ayatollah Khomeyni has stated that he will accept no compromise over Jerusalem or over the Palestinian people's rights, and that he is concerned for the holy places in Jerusalem.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM IRANIANS LIVING IN KUWAIT

LD271220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A message was submitted yesterday to the leader of Iran's Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, in Qom. It was signed by a number of representatives of Iranians residing in Kuwait. It states: We, the representatives of Iranians living in Kuwait, will not hesitate to sacrifice our lives and properties in casting our votes for the Islamic republic under the leadership and guidance of the greatest and bravest leader in history. We ask the creator of the world to cut off the hands of aliens and foreigners from the Islamic countries.

Imam Khomeyni, replying, issued the following message: In the name of the Almighty: Your Excellency Hojjatoleslam Mr Haj Seyyed Abbas Mohit, may your status be preserved. A message signed by a group of Iranian gentlemen residing in Kuwait regarding their support for the Islamic republic has been received. Please convey my thanks to these gentlemen and remind them that I hope they will always preserve their unity and oneness, and not provide a chance for activities by the enemies of Iran through differences or divisions. I ask the Almighty for the continuing success of all of these gentlemen. My greetings to you, and may God's blessing and kindness be with you forever.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, 26 March 1979.

FOREIGN MINISTER SANJABI RECEIVES SUDANESE AMBASSADOR

LD271500 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Karim Sanjabi, minister of foreign affairs of the Provisional Government of the Revolutionary Islamic Republic of Iran, met this morning with 'Ali Numayri, the Sudanese ambassador in Tehran, for talks. The ambassador congratulated the minister on the success of Iran's true revolution, and announced the support of the Sudanese nation and government for the Islamic revolution of Iran. He also discussed the problem of Eritrea with the Iranian foreign minister.

MINISTER YAZDI SPEAKS AT QAZVIN RALLY ON 27 MARCH

LD271904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Dr Ebrahim Yazdi, deputy prime minister for revolutionary affairs, is in Qazvin at the invitation of the people of the city. Today he participated in a rally at the Nabi Mosque in Qazvin, during which he discussed the Islamic republic and other important national matters.

At the beginning of his remarks, while referring to the role of the people of Qazvin in the Iranian peoples revolution, Dr Yazdi praised the martyrs of the city who died in their battle against the shah's executioners. Dr Yazdi then discussed the Islamic republic. He said: An Islamic republic is a republic in which the people themselves play roles. The people can think freely (?under an Islamic republic), and elect freely, and no one can threaten them. Our Islamic republic also embraces all our peoples democratic identities, and in addition it possesses a philosophical identity.

Dr Yazdi then added: The Islamic republic wants independence for the country. It is not affiliated with the East or with the West. Those who are saying today that they do not accept the Islamic republic--where were they when the bullets were flying, when they could have said that they wanted a people's democratic republic? During those demonstrations everyone was saying unanimously: Islamic republic.

Dr Yazdi then referred to economics in an Islamic republic. He said: An Islamic republic will ask for an end to all types of exploitation. An Islamic republic will not permit a minority to always loot the rights of the majority. Islam is especially opposed to this. Dr Yazdi then said: The father of the shah, who was known as the good-for-nothing Reza Khan of Savad-Kuh, was the son of a (?coppersmith) who was (?later) considered the eighth wealthiest person on earth.

Where did he get all this wealth? Why don't we have it? Why don't you have it? Why don't our fathers have such wealth? The shah who escaped was the wealthiest person in the world at the time of his departure. His and his family's income was $2 billion a year. That is 14 billion tumans. We want to put an end to such lootings and pilferings.

Following Dr Yazdi's speech, at the invitation of the Qazvin scholars group, there was a march to the Valiye 'Asr Square in Qazvin to confirm the Islamic republic. Dr Yazdi marched in the front line. Some 300,000 Qazvin residents participated in the march.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON UPCOMING REFERENDUM

Gendarmerie Commander

LD270954 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the commander of the all-state gendarmerie: In the name of the Almighty: All the country's gendarmerie personnel are hereby informed that participation in the referendum to be held on Friday is a national and patriotic duty. Hence, there is no bar on the expression of views by officers, NCO's , soldiers and family members of the all-state gendarmerie. This is in compliance with the wishes of the leaders of the revolution. You are advised to express your genuine view through participation in this referendum. Incidentally, I and the leadership of the all-state gendarmerie shall be voting for an Islamic republic.

[Signed] The commander of the all-state gendarmerie

Sunni Leader in Baluchestan

LD171648 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hazrat Molavi 'Abd al-Aziz, leader of the Sunni population in the Province of Baluchestan and Sistan, issued a message to the Baluchi compatriots and Sunni brothers of the southern area of Khorassan. His message states in part: My brothers, now that you have achieved your long-sought goals, aims and wishes, and since the Islamic movement has been successful so far, join the Islamic movement and vote for the genuine Islamic republic which is based on the foundations of the Koran and true Islam. You Iranian Muslims and I and all the other sections of society without exception must seek this Islam. This is our heart's desire.

In another part of his message, Hazrat Molavi 'Abd al-Aziz addressed all the Iranian Baluchi and non-Baluchi brothers. He said: All of you are brothers. Put your differences aside. He emphasized that we must follow one Koran, one Mecca and one Islam. You should have unity of words and ranks. We follow one path to Islam and we should have one aim.

Hazrat Molavi 'Abd al-Aziz specifically addressed the Baluchi brothers here, saying: To the extent that was possible, we have informed Imam Khomeyni of your wishes. We have conveyed the wishes of this entire area by telegram, letter and in person, and we did all this for the sake of Islam and you brothers. At the end of his message, addressing the Sunni and Baluchi brothers, he pointed out: All your national and religious wishes have been accepted and will continue to be accepted in the future. Therefore, there is no cause for anxiety whatsoever. Try to put aside all factional and minor differences. Once more I stress that we will vote for the Islamic republic.

Ayatollah Golpaygani

LD271330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpts] On the eve of the referendum of the Iranian Islamic revolution, His Excellency Ayatollah Golpaygani has addressed the following message to the Iranian nation:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful: Victorious Muslim nation, the task you have accomplished with the word and strength of God was very great, and brought glory upon you in the eyes of the world. Perhaps nations and peoples who did not take into account the Iranian nation, and did not imagine us capable of uprising and revolution, used to regard us as bound by colonialism, tyranny and the foul and (?devil-worshiping) imperial order, and [word indistinct] of the crimes of that regime. But thanks to your strength of faith and action, they have realized what kind of men and women, and what kind of talent and force of will exists among the Muslims and their nation. May God Almighty reward your deeds.

Although the vote of the Muslim Iranian nation in this referendum is quite clear, nevertheless in order to proclaim the establishment of the Islamic order and to accept participation and greater commitment in the organization of an Islamic society, a referendum is to be held and the result of this referendum broadly specifies the way that the nation and government must follow, and the future programs that ought to be defined within the confines of Islamic relations. The vote of each member of the nation is effective in further consolidating the foundations of the new Islamic order. An awareness of Islamic commitment and an interest in welfare, freedom and independence of the country demands that, with a decisive majority and [word indistinct] manner, you give your vote for an Islamic republic.

National Police Chief

LD271340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In a statement today, the chief of the national police described the participation of police officers, NCO's, employees of the national police and their families in the referendum on Friday, as well as other compatriots, as a duty. The chief of national police announced in the statement: I and the board of executives of the national police will vote in favor of an Islamic republic.

Kurdish Leader

LD271320 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The following announcement was issued today by Ahmad Moftizadeh, leader of the Kordestan and Kurdish people:

In the name of Almighty God: Dear informed compatriots, honorable people of Kordestan, your revolutionary resurrection came as roaring waves, breaking apart the enemy's satanic bases one after another. What afforded this Muslim nation such an opportunity and power was its religious unity and Islamic affinity. Now the internal and external enemies, in different disguises, are watching our Islamic revolution. We have a long and difficult road ahead of us if we are to offset their plots and rebuild upon the ruins of oppression, deception and privileges, to reach our goal in this endeavor in order to repay our blood debt to the martyrs of the revolution and to the present and future state of the Iranian nation.

This, undoubtedly, will in itself contribute to the cause of advancing Islam's revolutionary objectives throughout the world. Sisters and brothers, at the present stage of the revolution, our historic responsibility can be summarized in this sentence: By voting for an Islamic republic, let us choose a government which will eradicate from the stagnant face of Iran the traces of various religious, national and class differences by accepting the Kordestan clergy's epic resolution, our goal. All of us supporting the Islamic party of equality, and relying upon the fact that Imam Khomeyni and the leaders of the revolution and Provisional Government have agreed to implement the provisions of the three-point resolution, which is a part of the objectives of this party, will only vote for the Islamic republic.

[Signed] Sanandaj, 27 March 1979, Ahmad Moftizadeh.

Women Demonstrate in Sanandaj

LD272142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In the wake of the vast demonstrations which have recently taken place in Sanandaj in support of the Iranian Islamic republic under the leadership of the Imam Khomeyni, and in gratitude for the gracious visit paid by His Eminence the Ayatollah Taleqani to Kordestan and in defense of the national rights of the Kordestan people under the leadership of the great scholar Ahmad Moftizadeh, a vast meeting was held today by Muslim women of Kordestan in Azadi Square in Sanandaj City.

During this rally, which took place from 1500 today, a number of people spoke in support of the Islamic republic, inviting the people to take part in the referendum, and calling for the punishment of those responsible for the slayings in Sanandaj. The signing of the unilateral Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement was also sharply condemned.

The placards carried by the people today were inscribed with slogans on the leadership of the Imam Khomeyni, the setting up of an Islamic republic in Iran, support for the great scholar Ahmad Moftizadeh as the leader of the people of Kordestan, and calling on the people to participate in the most auspicious manner in the general referendum in Iran. After this rally, the demonstrators marched in an orderly manner in several streets in the city. At the conclusion of today's demonstrations the people were invited to participate in another rally at 1500 tomorrow in Sanandaj's great mosque.

Shahsavar Polling Information

DO271755 Sari Domestic Service in Persian 1444 GMT 27 Mar 79 DO

[Text] To insure the greatest possible participation in the referendum on Friday, 10 Farvardin [30 March], the election board in Shahsavar has designated 19 polling places in Shahsavar and the vicinity. All people of Shahsavar who are eligible to participate in the referendum are asked to vote in the nearest polling location.

Tabriz Marches

DO271855 Tabriz Domestic Service in Persian 1730 GMT 27 Mar 79 DO

[Text] Following the announcement of the clerical community concerning their march tomorrow, the Muslim people's Islamic Republic Party of Iran also declares that it will organize a march tomorrow. The march will be in support of the government of the Islamic republic and in favor of Friday's referendum, and it will start at 0900 from Shari'at-Madari Square.

Armed Forces To Vote

LD272024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] It was announced today that the Council of the Iranian Islamic Revolution has approved the resolutions of the Islamic Revolution Court. By the approval of the Revolution Council, all those who are serving as cadres of the armed forces, whether soldiers, NCO's, officers or other personnel, can take part in the referendum.

MASHHAD FREE UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES ACTIVITIES

DO271823 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1513 GMT 27 Mar 79 DO

[Text] Dear listeners, we have an announcement from the students of the free university of Mashhad: All students of the free university, Mashhad area center, will be gathering on [word indistinct] 31 March at 1700 in the university in order to review the curriculum and to select representatives for the university council. Incidentally, the teaching program of the free university began on Tuesday, 27 March.

KHUZESTAN AUTHORITIES WARN PEOPLE TO GUARD IDENTITY CARDS

DO271831 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 27 Mar 79 DO

[Text] This announcement was released today by the executive committee for the referendum in Khuzestan: In the name of the Almighty, according to information, antirevolutionary elements in various places are using such excuses as land transfers, homes and employment in order to gather peoples' identity cards. The respected people of Khuzestan are hereby notified that by using their revolutionary alertness, they must neutralize the counterrevolutionary efforts of a handful of individuals. Under no circumstances are you to give away your identity card.

NEW PUBLIC PROSECUTOR APPOINTED IN SARI

DO271804 Sari Domestic Service in Persian 1445 GMT 27 Mar 79 DO

[Text] Please listen to announcement No 41 from the Islamic Revolution Committee of the city of Sari: Mr (Behruz Mojtahedzadeh) has been appointed the public prosecutor of the city of Sari by the general public prosecutor of the Iranian Islamic Revolution. Consequently, all guardians of the Islamic revolution and all Islamic revolution committees in Sari are hereby informed that, as of this date, they are not to arrest any suspects without direct orders from Mr (Behruz Mojtahedzadeh) or from Mr [words indistinct] (Hoseyn 'Arabi), the [word indistinct] of the Islamic revolution of the city of Sari. Obviously, should there be suspicions concerning someone, the details and accompanying evidence and proof must be provided to the public prosecutor. A decision will then be taken.

FORMER SAVAK MEMBERS UNDER INVESTIGATION IN NOWSHAHR

DO271817 Sari Domestic Service in Persian 1446 GMT 27 Mar 79 DO

[Text] The publicity office of Imam Khomeyni in Nowshahr has announced that the files of the disbanded SAVAK organization and its members in this city are under investigation. This office requests that the people refrain from bringing charges against others, and that they not cast suspicion on anyone without evidence and proof.

DEMONSTRATIONS PROTEST EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TREATY

LD272130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The city of Ahvaz yesterday witnessed a march and demonstrations by a vast group of people. The march took place in order to condemn the unilateral Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement. Bearing pictures of the Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, and of Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the PLO, the marchers, while expressing support for the Islamic republic, denounced the Egyptian-Israeli agreement, and by chanting such slogans as Palestine, Iran Is Your Supporter, Israel Should Be Destroyed, expressed their backing and support for the Palestinian people.

Similarly today, as a declaration of fresh support and solidarity with the Islamic republic and in protest against the signing of the peace agreement by Egypt and Israel, over 120,000 clergymen, women, men, educators, judges, doctors, students, pupils, government employees, officers, NCO's and men from the gendarmerie garrison and police department in Kerman participated in a mammoth march in the streets of this city. After a meeting in the grand mosque, bearing pictures of the Imam Khomeyni and slogans on the Islamic republic denouncing the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli agreements, they marched along the streets of Kerman for hours.

According to our correspondent's dispatch from Zahedan, the officers, NCO's and soldiers of the battalion of the Iranian national gendarmerie strongly denounced the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement.

Similarly, tens of thousands of people in Bojnurd and Kashmar denounced the Egyptian Israeli peace agreement in demonstrations today, expressing their support for the Palestinian people.

According to our correspondent's dispatch from Rasht, this morning several thousand bazaar merchants, pupils and various groups of people in Rasht, in the course of a march, denounced the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement, which has ignored the just rights of the Palestinian people.

'AGENT' OF SHAH'S REGIME ARRESTED IN YAZD

LD271326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent, the Yazd Islamic revolution guardians have arrested yet another subservient agent of the previous regime who had had a hand in the trial and destruction of the country's conscious young people, and handed him over to the Yazd Islamic Revolution Committee. He is Ahmad Reza Kheradmand, the former prosecutor of the military tribunal. He was also the prosecutor in the trial of Khosrow Golesorkhi and Keramatollah Daneshian.

MAJOR ARRESTED IN AMOL, TO BE TRIED IN TEHRAN

LD271328 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent, Major Kamyab, a member of the counterintelligence department in the previous regime's army, has been arrested by the soldiers of the Amol Revolution Committee. Kamyab, who has been arrested on the request of the Central Committee, has been handed over to the committee's forces so that charges brought against him may be dealt with in Tehran.

APPEAL FOR EVIDENCE AGAINST 30 'CRIMINALS, AGENTS'

LD272204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] The names of another 30 criminals and agents of the former regime were announced today by the office of the prosecutor general of the Iranian Islamic revolution. It is essential that our dear compatriots should deliver at their earliest convenience information, documents and proof, and their complaints in connection with the crimes perpetrated by each one of these people to the committee responsible for collecting proof and information of the office of the prosecutor general, situated at the former army's adjudication department in the Old Shemiran Avenue, before the Qasr intersection.

FORMER REGIME'S POLITICAL SENTENCES TO BE NULLIFIED

LD271746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Today a bill was introduced regarding the nullification of political sentences of those individuals accused of political activities under the previous regime. The text of the bill is as follows: Sentences of those persons who, because of activities against the country's security, offenses against the monarchy and other political indictments were found guilty on or before 5 February 1979, will be considered null and void. None of the said sentences will be implemented.

[Signed] Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister.

SHAH'S AGENTS 'HATCHING PLOTS' IN LONDON

LD271120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Information obtained from reliable sources today indicates that some of the officers and agents of the previous regime are engaged in hatching plots and colluding in London against the Provisional Iranian Government of the Islamic revolution, by spending large sums of money with reactionary circles and the rightwing British press. Some of them have even gone to Morocco for talks with and to get instructions from the former shah. On the basis of the report received, Gholamreza Pahlavi, Mahmud Monsef, Reza Fallah, Farrokh Najmabadi, Lieutenant General Ruhani, Lt Gen Eskandar Azmudeh and Dr Mostafa 'Alamuti are among the lackeys of the former regime who are busy hatching plots in London.

NVOI ON U.S. PLANS FOR MIDDLE EAST REGION

TA271857 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1930 GMT 15 Mar 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "With Revolutionary Vigilance We Should Disclose America's Filthy Plans"]

[Text] A chain of protest demonstrations were held in our country in response to Carter's trip to the Middle East. At these demonstrations, the speakers exposed U.S. President Carter's trip to Egypt as a dangerous plot of American imperialism against the peace and tranquility of this region, and vigorously condemned the Carter-As-Sadat-Begin conspiracy, the goal of which is to strengthen American military positions in the Middle East and to create discord among the countries of this region.

One of these demonstrations was held by 100,000 representatives of groups and social and political organizations of the capital at the university. At the end of this demonstration, the 100,000 young people, employees, workers, and officers and soldiers of the revolutionary armed forces of Iran headed toward the American Embassy.

During this march, the demonstrators condemned the intervention of American imperialism in the events of the Near and Middle East, the dispatch of American warships to the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, and the Pentagon's efforts to create a new military treaty of the same fabric as CENTO. The efforts of the United States, its President's trip to Egypt and Israel to persuade As-Sadat and Begin to sign a separate peace treaty based on the schemes of the Pentagon and CIA, once again clearly indicate that after the bloody downfall of the shah's regime and the loss of military bases in Iran, American imperialism resorted to another set of adventurous acts.

Long before Carter's visit to Egypt, in order to please his American masters, As-Sadat sent 5,000-7,000 Egyptian troops armed with the most modern (?weapons) to Oman to defend America's strategic interests, actually assuming and playing the same dirty role of gendarmerie which his crowned brother, the traitor and homeless Mohammed Reza, had played in the Persian Gulf and its environs for many years. However, as you know, the victorious revolution of the Iranian people destroyed the 2,500 year-old monarchy and disgracefully expelled from Iran the blood-thirsty shah, the offspring of the coups d'etat of the American Central Intelligence Agency.

With the downfall of the shah's regime in Iran, the United States came face to face with its ridiculous defeat in the Middle East, both politically and militarily. To remedy this immense defeat, America is trying to form a new military alliance in the Middle East, with the participation of Egypt and Israel, in order to regain its lost political and military positions.

Pakistan's and Iran's withdrawal from the imperialist CENTO organization, a creation of Britain and America, and the decision of Iran's Provisional Revolutionary Government to review all bilateral military agreements with the United States, has caused the White House to decide to carry out adventurous and expansionist plans in our region. Some American warmongering senators even asked Carter to send military forces to the Arabian Peninsula and above all to Saudi Arabia under the pretext of defending the oil rich territories. To expand its air and naval bases, the American imperialist government dispatched warships to the Persian Gulf area and to Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, endangering world peace and putting our country under a direct military threat.

The huge protest demonstrations by our country's people were another slap in the face to imperialist governments and to the crafty enemies of Iran, who commit all kinds of adventurous acts in an attempt to revive their military and political positions.

The struggling people of Iran were able to put an end to the military presence of the United States in our country and to their directing all our military and economic affairs through hundreds of thousands of military advisers and professional agents of the CIA and SAVAK. The people were able to put an end to the regime imposed by them. This is a lesson from which all the countries of our region should learn. This is what frightens and alarms the base and bankrupt American imperialism and its hirelings.

NVOI ON HOW SHAH BROUGHT ECONOMY TO BANKRUPTCY

TA271549 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1930 GMT 16 Mar 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "The Economy and the Relations Which Brought Our Economy to Bankruptcy"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Our people and country inherited a number of economic, social and cultural problems from the former, hated regime which have to be solved quickly. The most important of all of these economic problems is the one resulting from relations imposed upon our country by the Americans and the English.

The loudspeakers of that murderous and servile regime roared day and night about how they had supposedly created a flourishing and prosperous economy and industry in our land. However, in those grim days, our country's national and progressive forces disclosed, through statistical evidence, the undeniable truth about all the false claims of agents of the hated regime. That criminal regime struck the most serious blows at our industry and agriculture, and in reality destroyed Iran's industrial and agricultural economy. The American and English masters and supporters of that murderous regime established their deadly rule upon all the economically vital aspects of Iran through the use of bayonets, hot pokers and [word indistinct]. For many years the Western plunderers of this type of colonialism plundered tens upon tens of billions of dollars of our country's income. Not only did they not produce a single unit of industry independent of inflationary Western technology, but they also prevented the construction of useful industrial units.

Who is unaware, in our country, of the tragedy of the steel mill installations? Is there anyone who does not know that these same Western monopolies pocketed enormous amounts of money from Iran's treasury for their so-called (?services) in the steel mill project and for the survey of that project, and finally left only several tons of paper behind?

The few industrial or semi-industrial units which were installed in Iran through collusion with the former shah and his agents depend on the West's market not only from the viewpoint of [word indistinct], but also from the viewpoint of raw materials and the most modern methods of production. The combined experience of all developing countries proves this fact.

Now that the murderous shah and his puppet royal regime have been toppled; now that the Iranians are ready to remedy their economy and to draw up programs for future economic growth, and are paying attention to this vital question, such as the cause of bankruptcy and economic crisis during that period, and to the various basic and healthy ways to expedite present and future economic growth, the attention of the authorities and economic planners is drawn to a review and study of all the damaging agreements imposed by the former shah. They must solve the problem of establishing a new era of economic relations and technical cooperation with all the countries of the world, based on Iran's viewpoint and its healthy economic growth.

The relations and anti-Iranian system which the hated former regime used in preparing economic plans, turned our country's economy into an offspring of the West's inflationary economy devoid of any independent national character.

Did anyone except those Western monopolies, who supported the traitorous shah, and a handful of agents and swindlers benefit from those relations and systems? These were the treacherous relations which pulled us into bankruptcy and deprived the people of Iran of a healthy national technology and agricultural economy. The first step toward the revival of a national agricultural and industrial economy, and toward the creation of a healthy foundation for rapid and healthy economic growth, would be to put an end to all the military relations through which the hated former shah's regime governed the economic matters of our country.

Our country has enormous national riches and human resources. By self-reliance and through technical and economic cooperation with all the advanced countries, we can, in not too distant a future, take steps based on national interests and mutual relations.

NVOI ON NEW YEAR, NEED TO PURGE ANTIREVOLUTIONARIES

TA271355 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 24 March carries a commentary entitled "New Year and New Tasks." The commentary says:

"Dear compatriots: The brave and proud Iranian nation is observing its first free spring, its first free new year. The traditional new year is being celebrated in the full sense of the word for the first time by the nation, because it has arrived at a time when our country has been purged of the dirty, abominable and illegal imperial regime. As a result of our nation's brave struggle and revolution, the imperial regime has been destroyed and driven out of our sacred country, and a republic will be established. For the first time, Iranian families have been celebrating the new year freed from the assaults of the owl of despotism, and with their beloved ones and children who have returned to their homes after being freed from SAVAK by the nation's powerful hand. To reach such a day, our nation had to wage a long and extensive struggle against imperial despotism."

After noting that following the success of the revolution the shah fled the country, the commentary says: "The abominable and homeless Muhammad Reza has been seeking a new homeland in which to reside, but so far he has not succeeded."

Referring to the forthcoming referendum, the commentary says: "On these new year days, our nation is preparing itself for the historic task of participating in the referendum, in which through its votes it will completely reject the illegal imperial regime and will express its final approval for the establishment of an Islamic republic."

The commentary then warns: "Imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism, has lost its positions in our country, but the influence of that dark force has not yet been completely eradicated. Both the remnants of the defunct regime and imperialism are writhing like wounded snakes, awaiting the first opportunity to inject what is left of their poisons into our nation, and thus deal a blow at the revolution and its achievements.

"At a time when the Iranian nation is observing its first free spring feast and new year, the remnants of the former regime and antinational SAVAK assassins, inspired by CIA officials' principles, are resorting to crimes against our nation and its revolutionary achievements. But the desperate, panicky acts by this group of people are being foiled as a result of the sacrifice and revolutionary vigilance of the nation's revolutionaries."

"The aims of these poisonous scorpions was to cause (?unrest) during these new year days. However, they have failed in their dark aim and have been crushed. On this occasion, let us further increase our revolutionary vigilance and our unity in word and deed. Through unity and solidarity, let us foil the conspiracies of our nation's enemies and of the defunct regime's remnants and exploitative elements."

The commentary concludes: "This new year, the year 1358, has opened a new chapter in our country's proud history. The Islamic republic of Iran has entered the new year, the happy year which has dawned brilliantly upon our nation, with great hopes and aspirations. In this new year our nation will take firm and clear strides toward the realization of its eternal aspiration--that of establishing a free and prosperous Iran."

The radio then carries a commentary entitled "A Year of Purge and Progress" which, after noting that as is the case with every revolution the Iranian revolution is also experiencing various difficulties in its first stages, refers to the need to purge the country of antirevolutionary elements. It says: "The country must be purged of despised and corrupt elements and of the defunct regime's remnants. The entire people, like a single body, approve of the work being done by the Provisional Revolutionary Government. It should not be ignored that the wounded enemy has merely changed its appearance, and has not abandoned its efforts to create discord and to incite trouble among our people."

After noting that pro-shah antirevolutionaries are continuing their subversive activities, the commentary says: "One of the main tasks of the revolutionaries and revolutionary soldiers is to expose and purge the dishonest elements who, under various names, have infiltrated some administrative organizations and even some revolutionary committees, and who want to stab the Iranian nation's victorious revolution in the back.

"The country is beginning the new year with a great historic event: Soon the historic referendum will be held and the Iranian nation will go to the polls to condemn the abominable imperial regime as illegal, and to determine the course of the new regime. Undoubtedly, the nation will vote for the establishment of a republican regime. In view of this, our country's people are celebrating this first free spring feast and new year with great joy and pride."

AFGHANISTAN

AMIN NOW 'FIRST' MINISTER; NEW GOVERNMENT IN OFFING

SK271520 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 27 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Under the chairmanship of the great leader of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the great Revolutionary Council, the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan this morning held an extraordinary meeting in the House of the People and approved the law of the Supreme Council on the defense of the country and the law on regulation of the decisions of the Revolutionary Council and the government and the legislation procedure along with amendments thereof in six articles.

Our great revolutionary leader, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the chairman of the Revolutionary Council, at today's extraordinary meeting of the Revolutionary Council appointed Hafizollah Amin, the vice premier and the minister of foreign affairs, as the first minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which was profoundly welcomed by the members of the Revolutionary Council.

In accordance with the instructions of the great and beloved leader of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, until the formation of the new government, members of the present council of ministers shall continue with their duties.

FIRST MINISTER AMIN RECEIVES IRAQI ENVOY

BK271540 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 27 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that Hafizollah Amin, the first minister and minister in charge of foreign affairs, met in the People's Hall his excellency (Ahmed Abdul Qadil al-Sari) the ambassador of the Republic of Iraq this morning. It was a farewell call.

INDIA

ARAB ENVOYS IN DELHI CONDEMN ISRAEL-EGYPT TREATY

BK280934 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The heads of the diplomatic missions of several Arab states in India have condemned the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. At a joint press conference in New Delhi today, they rejected the treaty, saying it is unilateral and betrays the cause of the Arabs and the Palestinians.

Addressing the conference, the director of the PLO mission in India, Mr Faysal 'Ubaydah, said that foreign ministers of all Arab states with the exception of Egypt are currently meeting in Baghdad to chalk out a course of action. Mr 'Ubaydah said that the Palestinian problem is an Arab problem and it is the core of conflict with Israel. He pointed out that there cannot be any peace without the Palestinians. The Palestinian director further said that with the signing of the treaty the military presence of the superpowers would increase in the Indian Ocean region, posing danger to all the nations in the area. He welcomed the stand of the Indian Government for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. He also condemned India's continued support for the Arab cause and the Palestinian rights.

The diplomatic heads present at the conference were from Algeria, Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Morocco, and Yemen.

VAJPAYEE REMARKS TO PALESTINIAN STUDENTS IN DELHI

BK261529 Delhi ISI in English 1508 GMT 26 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Representatives of the Palestinian students accompanied by the director of the PLO office in New Delhi, Faysal 'Ubaydah, called on the foreign minister on 26 March. Those present were the president of the General Union of the Palestinian Students, GUPS, the representative of the National Union of Iraqi Students in New Delhi and another member of the committee of GUPS. They explained that they had occupied the office of the League of Arab States since the 23rd and had organised demonstrations outside the U.S. and Egyptian Embassies in protest against the Egypt-Israeli peace treaty which was scheduled to be signed on 26 March in Washington.

The foreign minister reiterated India's consistent stand on the Arab situation in West Asia and said that Israel must withdraw from all occupied Arab territory including Jerusalem. There must be restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinians, including the right to set up a national state of their own. A comprehensive settlement, he said, could lead to a just and durable peace in the region. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the relevant General Assembly resolutions on the Palestine question constituted a principled basis for a comprehensive and lasting peace.

The foreign minister said that India was a free and democratic country and the students had every right to express their sentiments. However all demonstrations must be peaceful and he requested that no action should be taken which could in any way harm India's relations with any other country.

MP'S BACK AFGHAN GOVERNMENT, DECRY DESTABILIZING EFFORTS

BK271256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Mar 79 BK

[Text] One hundred and fifty members of Parliament belonging to different political parties have expressed grave concern over attempts to destabilize the Revolutionary People's Government of Afghanistan. Expressing their support and solidarity with the people and government of Afghanistan, the MP's, in a signed statement, have warned the forces of reaction and enemies of peace to desist from such attempts.

The statement was handed over to the ambassador of Afghanistan in New Delhi today. The signatories include Mr D.C. Bhattacharjea, Mr Raj Narain, Mr Bhola Paswan Shastri and Mr A.R. Antule.

PAKISTAN

FOREIGN OFFICE ISSUES STATEMENT ON ISRAEL-EGYPT ACCORD

BK280928 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Mar 79 BK

[Text] A statement issued in Islamabad today by the Foreign Office on the signing of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel in Washington yesterday, says that the signing of the treaty is an event of far-reaching consequences.

The whole world has been waiting for a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East and the end of the 30-year old conflict which has disrupted the life of the region and has stood in the way of stability and progress.

As an Islamic state with its historic commitment to the Arab cause, Pakistan has a special interest in a just and lasting peace settlement. The statement recalls that on the eve of the Ismailia meeting in December 1977, the president of Pakistan had written to President as-Sadat that the just aspirations and wish of the Muslims in regards to the holy city of Jerusalem should be given full weight in any settlement with Israel. In a subsequent message to President as-Sadat, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq stated that Pakistan remained dedicated to a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict--a suggestion that he reiterated in his replies to messages from King Husayn of Jordan and the PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

More recently, the statement adds, the Government of Pakistan conveyed to the U.S. Government at the highest level its well-known stand on a peace settlement in the Middle East. The formalities of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel have been completed as a result of President Carter's initiative and by his personal weight as the president of the United States. To acknowledge this, however, is not to say that the basis issues involved in the Arab-Israel conflict have been resolved or the essential conditions for a lasting peace.

The statement points out that time and again Pakistan had reiterated its prediction that there is no viable alternative to a comprehensive and lasting peace settlement based on resolution of the root cause of the conflict in the Middle East, which is the denial of the right of self-determination to the people of Palestine. The essential ingredients for such a settlement are the complete withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories, restoration of Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty and the restitution of the national rights of the Palestinians including the right to establish an independent national state in Palestine as demanded by the PLO, their sole representative organization.

HAQ ADDRESSES MILITARY PARADE ON PAKISTAN NATIONAL DAY

BK231312 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0515 GMT 23 Mar 79 BK

[Address by Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq at military parade by joint services in Rawalpindi 23 March to mark Pakistan National Day--live]

[Text] I begin with the name [words indistinct] kind and merciful, I praise God and his noble prophet. Guardians of the beloved motherland: Peace be upon you.

I am extremely happy to witness this grand parade by the armed forces on the auspicious occasion of Pakistan Day. I congratulate you on your excellent turnout, alertness and a completely satisfactory performance. This spectacular parade recalls that unequalled eventful day when 29 years [as heard] ago the Muslims of South Asia took the pledge and resolved to set up a separate nation and live according to their religion. The first part of this pledge was completed on 14 August 1947 when, under the incomparable leadership of Qaide Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah and after untold difficulties and sacrifices, the Muslims attained a separate homeland.

The honor of fulfilling the second part of this pledge, under which it was resolved to lead individual and collective life in accordance with Islam, has been achieved by the present government with the cooperation of the Pakistan Army and people. It has taken practical steps to establish the Islamic order. I heartily congratulate you all on this good luck and great honor.

Soldiers of Pakistan: Your greatness lies in the fact that you are the servants and soldiers of Islam. The soldier of Islam protects not only every inch of the soil but also the whole Islamic ideology. And for a Muslim, there is nothing greater in this and the next world than to serve Islam. In order to attain and maintain this honor there are two factors of basic importance: first, spirit, and second, the necessary military equipment. As far as spirit is concerned, with the grade of God there is no dearth of this in the armed forces. Whether officers or soldiers, all are imbued with the spirit of Islam and ready to offer the greatest of sacrifices for the ideology of Pakistan and defense of the country. The position of military equipment, too, is satisfactory and the armed forces are ready to effectively defend the country. We are neither unaware nor cannot remain unaffected by the changes taking place around us and the way some of our neighbors are equipping themselves with modern military arms and equipment. We are fully conscious of the country's defense and all necessary measures are being taken to meet defense needs while keeping in view the country's resources. Some measures have already proved fruitful while the effect of others will be, God willing, seen in the near future. The defense capability of our army is gradually improving and will continue to improve as a result of these measures.

Your government is fully aware of your needs no matter whether they concern personal welfare or the supply of arms. My brave soldiers: History is witness to the fact that the armies of Islam have generally been smaller than their opponents, but despite this, they have made up this shortcoming with [words indistinct] and top class professional skill. Hence, if I ask you to fulfill the material shortfall with stronger faith and training, it will not be any new philosophical advice. Our 1,400-year history proves this lesson also. The people of Pakistan and I have full confidence and pride in the capabilities of the Pakistan Army. I am confident that if put to the test, with the grace of God and God willing, we would prove true to the national trust.

Regarding our relations with our neighboring countries, I announce that we want friendly and peaceful relations with all our neighboring countries. We do not want to interfere in the internal affairs of any country, nor will we allow any country to interfere in our internal affairs. We want only to develop along the free path in an independent atmosphere by pursuing principles of dignity and equality. I pray that God will guide us to accomplish this task.

The armed forces services are required not only in time of war. But in peacetime, too, they are an invaluable national asset. Whether it be floods in our country or any other calamity, whether in combatting tuberculosis or in constructing roads in difficult terrain, the armed forces of Pakistan have valiantly served the motherland in all difficult times. This service has further raised the esteem in which the country holds them and has promoted mutual understanding. These feelings of understanding and (?affection) are great assets of the armed forces because when anyone challenges the country's dignity, the armed forces commit themselves with the same feelings of affection to serve the nation and defend the motherland. They have weapons in their hands, faith in their hearts and the backing of the entire nation which will see them through the most arduous trials. May Almighty God always keep these feelings alive. Amen!

Brave soldiers of the country: You are all aware of the situation that prevailed in the country on 5 July 1977. I do not want to go into details of the conditions of political confrontation and mutual mistrust that prevailed at that time and brought the country to the brink of civil war, internal chaos and ruin.

The situation that followed fully vindicated the action of the armed forces, necessitated by the greater national interests. Today if we look back at those events, we can feel happy and satisfied knowing that the timely intervention of the armed forces took the country out of the quagmire of despair and put it on the path of a bright future.

Brave soldiers: You might remember than in my first broadcast on 5 July 1977 I said the nation's future and interest lay in democracy, Islamic democracy. I also pledged that our destiny would be Islamic democracy and power would be transferred to elected representatives. Although we failed to realize our 'Operation 90-Days' plan [to hold elections and transfer power in 3 months] due to events that followed 5 July 1977, the objective we set on 5 July 1977 never vanished from our vision in the past 18 or 19 months, as we have endeavored to accelerate our march toward democracy. In this connection we took several steps including the establishment of an election commission which has been given the task of preparing new electoral lists and delimiting constituencies. The election commission is doing its job with utmost speed and the electoral lists, God willing, will be published within a few days.

You might remember that I declared the present year as the year of elections. Today, on the auspicious occasion of Pakistan Day I am happy to announce that the time has now come to put the pledge into practice. I am also fully aware that a large number of people are not in favor of holding elections now. They fear that after the elections our country might once again fall victim to political chaos. Some of them even suggest that the Western type of elections are not permissible in our religion. I respect their proposals and suggestions. However, on the recommendation of the election commission, I am announcing the date of general elections today, because I heartily feel that our country urgently needs an election. We can share power with the people only through Islamic and democratic organizations and can foster the integration of the country only through democratic means. This democracy must be an Islamic type of democracy. We had intended to hold general elections by October. Thus, the election commission had started preparations last year. However, some of the key political leaders insisted that the text of the affidavit form be changed when preparing the electoral list, even if it delayed the elections. This was supposed to take 2 more months, but the election commission, on my direction, continued working at full speed and tried to minimize the delay and complete the preliminary agreements as soon as possible. I congratulate the commission on its performance.

The election commission, keeping in view several issues, has suggested that the appropriate date of the general elections should be 17 November. While setting the date the election commission, besides its [words indistinct] has also noted that the month of Ramazan-ul-Mubarak ends at the end of August and the political leaders want to be given enough time to campaign after the month of Ramazam, also the Iduzzuha comes on 31 October. The majority of the people celebrate the festival and many, along with their relatives leave their electoral constituencies. Then the month of Muharramul Haram begins on 20 November and after the month of November most of the country comes under the grip of winter. While accepting the recommendation of the election commission I have decided, God willing, to hold the next elections on Saturday, 17 November 1979. On that day, according to the newly prepared lists, the voters will have the opportunity to elect the members of national and provincial assemblies, who are honest and pious according to the spirit of Islam. These elections will be held under the constitution of 1973.

May God make the day an auspicious one and provide the nation with sincere and correct leadership, so that we can march toward our goal of Islamic democracy as soon as possible.

The chief election commissioner will announce the election schedule in the near future. However, I want to point out two things: First, the election campaign will not be too long; and second, this campaign will in no way be allowed to degenerate into political chaos. All political processes will be conducted peacefully. The time allowed for campaigning will be determined according to the conditions prevailing in the country.

The announcement regarding the beginning of the election campaign will be given at an appropriate time. For now, the present restrictions on political activities will continue to be enforced. A campaign code will also be announced soon and will be binding on political parties and candidates. The main provision of this code will be that three basic questions already settled through consensus in the 1973 constitution will not be allowed to become election issues.

The main points of these three settled questions are: First and foremost is Pakistan's Islamic ideology; second, the federal parliamentary system of government; and third, provincial autonomy.

The details of this code will be published before the start of the election campaign. The elections will be held under the supervision of the judiciary and the armed forces and will, God willing, be a vehicle to carry the country forward toward its destiny.

The next system of government will be federal parliamentary, as agreed through consensus in the 1973 constitution. The parliamentary system of government is not an end in itself, but a means to efficiently run the affairs of the country in accordance with the aspirations of the people and fair play.

To run a democratic government successfully, it is essential that after the transfer of power the nation does not fall victim to a dictatorial attitude, political party rivalry or any such matter. My apprehension is not a mere suspicion, but supported by our history. Just think about why Iskander Mirza, Field Marshal Ayub Khan, General Yahya Khan and Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto could not transfer power peacefully? Was it because of their personal ambitions or was it because they lacked the framework, machinery or institution to guarantee the strict implementation of measures reached through consensus on the transfer of power?

However, I understand that under the present situation it is the national necessity that, keeping in view the experiences of the past, we devise a comprehensive and practical methodology to save us from future political chaos.

For example, the powers between the prime minister and president of the country be so divided as not to make one an unbridled dictator and the other a mere figurehead, one example of the division of power is available in the 1956 constitution which could be adapted to the present situation and made part of the 1973 constitution so that after the transfer of power there will exist a machinery, institution or framework to define all powers within the fixed limits of the constitution and to guarantee that the newly elected government will function peacefully for some time to help consolidate the democratic system.

Here I want to make it clear to eliminate any sort of misunderstanding that in the proposed redivision of power, the prime minister would continue to be the chief executive with full powers to run the administration of the country and the president would be the symbol of the Islamic republic and the protector of the constitution.

Although, there is unanimity of view on the need to coordinate the powers between the president and the prime minister, there exists some difference of opinion on the way to implement it. Some think this should be left to the next elected assembly. To settle this issue, some questions come to our minds.

For example, there is no guarantee that one party will secure a majority in the next assembly required for the constitutional amendment. Then also there might be a tussle for the prime minister's office immediately after the transfer of power which will overshadow the constitutional priorities, or there might be no unanimity on the main issue of the balance of power between the president and the prime minister.

In light of these apprehensions, it seems appropriate that this necessary amendment be carried out before the elections and, God willing we will also fulfill this.

In amending the constitution, deciding on the powers of the president and prime minister or changing the political parties act, it is our endeavor not to bring about any revolutionary changes in our present political system, but to mould them according to the attitude of our people to brighten the prospects of their success. I understand that one reason for the failure of a system is incompatibility with the attitude of the people on whom it is imposed.

Brave soldier of the country: Today we have made the announcement regarding the fulfillment of the pledge given by the armed forces about one and a half years ago. Almighty God will provide us courage and determination to transfer the administration of the country to the elected representatives of the people. God has blessed our people with immense capability. They have stood well the trials of the past whether it was the issue of the creation of Pakistan or the defense of its sovereignty. I am confident the people who created Pakistan under the exemplary leadership of the father of the nation [Mohammad Ali Jinnah] and made great sacrifices for democracy will now also, God willing, be successful in carrying the country toward its destiny of Islamic democracy by making full use of existing opportunities and will elect the right leadership.

Long live the armed forces of Pakistan! Long live Pakistan!

PRC MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES ON VISIT

BK260141 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Mar 79 BK

[Text] A Chinese delegation headed by Mr Zhang Tingfa, air force commander of the People's Liberation Army, arrived in Islamabad today on a 10-day goodwill visit to Pakistan. The delegation was greeted warmly at the Islamabad Airport by the chief of the air staff, Air Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim. Senior officers of the three services and the Chinese ambassador in Islamabad were also present on the occasion.

SRI LANKA

PERSONS HARBORING CRIMINALS TO BE DEALT WITH STERNLY

BK261146 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Stringent security measures are to be taken against those who harbor suspects alleged to be involved with a shooting of police personnel in the north. Such persons will also be brought under the law along with persons concealing evidence, according to a senior police officer. He said that the police, along with the task force, is now geared to handle subversive or anti-authoritative situations in the northern province.